



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

Some thoughts on freedom and faith – with some help from *Time Apart for My Soul* by Mary Zimmer
John 8:31-32 – Jesus then said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth and the truth will make you free.” RSV

Freedom is a great and glorious foundational concept. Freedom can also be a little bit terrifying. I first experienced a sense of personal freedom at the age of 17, in Moscow, of all places. I flew in with a group of students – we were taken to our dorms, shown how to get to our classes (if we wanted to go) and told to not be late for our flight home the following month. Wow, I grabbed a handful of change and hit the subway to explore the city during the nearly constant sunlit nights of a Russian summer. I could have gotten myself into a lot of trouble and found myself in some very dangerous predicaments. I learned a lot; one thing I learned is that freedom can be scary.

Freedom sounds great, to folks with few or very limited options. The unspoken reality is that freedom comes with the cost of responsibility. When we are free in an arena of our lives, whether it is political, personal, social, or religious, we have a parallel responsibility for how we live in that freedom.

Jesus taught us that he offers us freedom. We are free to choose to follow him. The freedom of Christ means that we choose as spiritually free persons created by God whether or not we will follow Jesus. We are not bound to sin, or any malevolent force of evil or wickedness. Christ's saving work on the cross has ensured our spiritual freedom.

This choice to follow then is ours to make. Whether or not we find ourselves: in a church, within a Christian community, showing outer manifestations of faith... these actions, or lack thereof, do not necessarily reflect faith. Faith is our own personal decision (freely chosen) to bear the responsibility to keep choosing Christ as teacher, model, and savior.

Blessings!
Pastor Kristi

United Methodist Women

We had our luncheon in June and will not meet again until October.



Community Luncheon

The luncheon will be Tuesday, July 12th from 11:30am – 2:00. We are planning a cookout to celebrate the summer. Please bring dishes appropriate for a summer luncheon. Also bring a friend.

Bible study reminder!

Bible study continues in July on Tuesdays at 7pm in Fellowship Hall (downstairs where it is cool). Follow us on alplaus.blogspot.com or drop in for a discussion on Paul's writings.

7/5 – 1 Corinthians

7/12 – 2 Corinthians

7/19 – serving dinner at City Mission – no class

7/26 – 1 Thessalonians

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>Psalm</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
7/3	2 Kings 5:1-14	30	Galatians 6: 1-16	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
7/10	Amos 7:1-1	82	Colossians 1:1-14	Luke 10:25-37
7/17	Amos 8:1-12	52	Colossians 1:15-28	Luke 10:38-42
7/24	Hosea 1:2-10	85	Colossians 2:6-19	Luke 11:1-13

Fulfilling our promises - our presence and our presents

	<u>Our Presence</u>	<u>Our Gifts</u>
May 1	18	\$517
May 8	20	\$1,226
May 15	17	\$258
May 22	21	\$442
May 29	47	\$455

Comparison of expenses and income

	For May	Actual year to date	Budgeted year to date
Expenses	\$4,097	\$28,467	\$28,945
Income	\$2,898	\$21,855	\$20,830

Church directory updates

Death notice: Please keep the family of Yvonne White and Jeanne Story in your prayers. Yvonne White died on May 12th and Jeanne Story died on May 20th. Our church has lost two faithful servants and they will be missed by all that knew them. Please contact the church if you would like to send cards and need the families' addresses. Also, please note that Mrs. Ethel Kline's newsletter was returned to us as unable to forward. If anyone has any information about Mrs. Kline please contact the church office.



Lay Leader

I AM A CHRISTIAN

'A woman's heart should be so hidden in Christ that a man should have to seek Him first to find her.'

When I say that 'I am a Christian', I am not shouting that 'I am clean living'. I'm whispering 'I was lost, but now I'm found and forgiven'.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I don't speak of this with pride. I'm confessing that I stumble and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not trying to be strong. I'm professing that I'm weak and need His strength to carry on.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not bragging of success. I'm admitting I have failed and need God to clean my mess.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not claiming to be perfect. My flaws are far too visible, but God believes I am worth it.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I still feel the sting of pain. I have my share of heartaches, so I call upon His name.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not holier than thou, I'm just a simple sinner who received God's good grace, somehow!

(author unknown)

If you have a story or article you would like me to share in our Muse, please email it to me if you can.

Blessings for a great summer,

Lisa Beretz, Lay Leader

July Birthdays

3	Richard Flanders
7	Lisa Beretz
16	Amanda C. Smith-Lucier
18	Esther Miller
22	Hope Meehan
27	Loren White
30	Gordon Neufeld

July Anniversaries

12	Gordon Neufeld & Mary Jo Downey '06
14	John & Tamara Lewis '83
26	Richard & Nancy Flanders '69
27	Robin & Dave Bowman

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



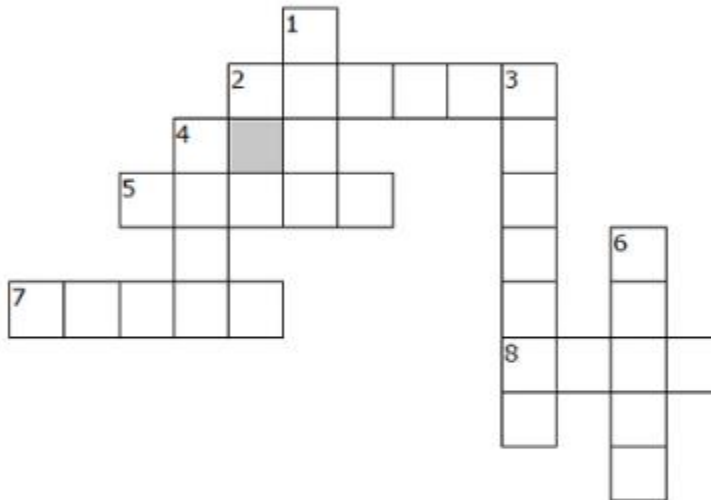
Children's Church

Thank you to all the children that participated in our children's church program, on the fourth Sunday of the month. We look forward to starting up again on September 25th. 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.

Hold on to Jesus

Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."
Luke 9:58 (NIV)

Based on Luke 9:56-58



ACROSS

- 2. To walk behind someone
- 5. Animals similar to dogs with a long, bushy tail
- 7. Creatures with feathers and wings, usually able to fly
- 8. A home for birds

DOWN

- 1. An opening in the ground where an animal might live
- 3. Traveling on foot
- 4. A pathway for vehicles, people, and animals
- 6. The Son of God

BIRDS	NEST	WALKING	FOXES
JESUS	FOLLOW	ROAD	HOLE

Alplaus United Methodist Church July 2016 Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Please note that we change to <u>summer worship time</u> on July 10 th					1 6:30pm Bridge	2
3 7 th day after Pentecost 10:30am Community Worship Service at Firehouse pavilion 3-5pm Kid's carnival, 6pm Firefighter Competition, 8pm Block Party	4 9am decorate float at Glencliff School 11am Alplaus Independence Day Parade! 11:30am after party at firehouse	5 7pm Bible Study: 1 Corinthians	6	7	8 6:30pm Bridge	9
10 8 th day after Pentecost 9:30am Church Communion Worship Service SICM Food Collection Day	11	12 11:30 – 2pm Community Luncheon 7pm Bible Study: 2 Corinthians	13	14	15 6:30pm Bridge	16
17 9 th day after Pentecost 9:30am Church Worship Service	18	19 5pm Serve at City Mission No Bible Study	20 August Muse article deadline!	21	22 6:30pm Bridge	23
24 10 th day after Pentecost 9:30am Church Worship Service	25	26 7pm Bible Study: 1 Thessalonians	27	28	29 6:30pm Bridge	30
31 11 th day after Pentecost 9:30am Church Worship Service						

Pastor Kristi's office hours: 10am – Noon on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

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

First Class Mail



JULY 1, 2016



Articles for the August newsletter must be submitted to alplausmuse@gmail.com no later than **July 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 phone at 330-9277 or email LLBeretz@gmail.com. Please put Muse in the subject line.