



ALPHA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

211 North Scandia St., PO Box 607
Alpha, IL 61413
309-629-5161 | www.alphaumc.org

June 2022

Volume 2022 Issue 6

The cost of following Jesus

Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me." -- Luke 9:23

Following Jesus is costly. Grace is God's free gift to us based on God's love for us. Grace is not earned, purchased, stolen, or inherited because of who we are related to. Grace is God's free gift because of God's concern for each of His children. Grace is provided so that none will perish. Grace is free but following Jesus will cost you everything.

The scriptures are clear. The first payment involves self-denial. We must, in the words of John the Baptist, "decrease and allow Jesus to increase in our lives". Self-denial is not something that you hear a lot of in our present day. Self-denial is for individuals, churches, and institutions that name and claim the name of Jesus. Churches, as well as its individual members, must recognize that it is not about them (us). But it is about the kingdom of God and the advancement of Jesus Christ. Self-denial is about trusting and following Jesus even when times are dark.

I hear a lot of talk about disaffiliation, separation, and departure from The United Methodist Church. I have heard, seen, and felt more energy around disaffiliation, separation or dissolution than I have heard around making disciples and growing the Kingdom of God. To be sure, if your church is not currently reaching new people for Jesus Christ changing the denominational label or the church address is not going to make a difference.

I understand the concern that some have around issues of theology and Biblical integrity. Theology and Biblical integrity are essentials of the Christian faith. We all should strive to be obedient and follow God's word and to ardently strive for obeying God's will. Sin should never be compromised. Sin should not be embraced in any shape or form by believers, individually or corporately. Jesus calls us to deny ourselves and to pursue our relationship with him on a daily basis. Confession of sin and repentance of sin are significant steps in remaining true to Jesus.

I am not sure where we are headed as an annual conference. My hope is that we will stay together. That we will exhibit grace and space towards one another and that above all, we will love like Jesus loves. That means not demanding our own way. That means learning how to express forgiveness to one another and to request forgiveness from those that have injured us.

Jesus said about us, "you are the light of the world." I believe it is time for the church -- laity and clergy -- to let our light shine for Jesus. Our lights are not to shine in such a manner that praise and glory is heaped upon churches and individuals. All praise, glory and honor belong to the Lord Jesus Christ. Let us as members of the body of Christ and as members of the Illinois Great Rivers Conference focus on lifting up Jesus.

As we gather together for Annual Conference, let us remind ourselves that it is not about me. It is not about "my church." But it is about advancing Jesus -- inward and outward.

Looking forward to seeing you in person or virtually.

God bless,
Bishop Frank J. Beard

Church Council

Council Chair: Lindi Kernan
 Treasurer: Parris Silvis
 Financial Secretary: Linda Lanning
 Trustees: David Lambin
 S/PPRC: Dale Lanning
 Outreach: Linda Lambin
 Nurture: Kelli Swanson
 Worship: Roger Swanson
 Christian Education: TBD
 Men in Mission: Dean Kernan
 Youth Representative: Jack Silvis
 Lay Leader: Lindi Kernan
 Recording Secretary: Desirae Silvis



Thank you church family for sending us the Prayer books and gift cards to encourage through finals. It was nice to know you all were thinking of us as we finished up the year and Annie was graduating. We hope you all are doing well.

Grace, Lucas, and Annie Althaus

Church Office Hours

9AM - 1PM— Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

309-629-5161

alphaumc@gmail.com

Website: www.alphaumc.org

Facebook: @alphaunitedmethodist.com

Pastor Karna's Contact Info:

Cell: 309-337-2700

email: peteysaunt@yahoo.com

Let's Celebrate!

June Birthdays

- 01: Erica Reed
- 02: Pastor Karna Peterson
- 02: Stacy Dunham
- 07: Richard Coffey
- 07: Lindi Kernan
- 07: Leah Reed
- 17: Edie Peden
- 18: Brittney Atchison
- 18: Judy Barton
- 20: Ann Enstrom
- 22: Angie Briggs
- 27: Kovie Mikaele
- 30: Wendy Swanson

June Anniversaries

- 04: Jason & Ronda Lambin
- 09: David & Angie Althaus
- 19: Dean & Lindi Kernan
- 30: Parris & Desirae Silvis



Join Us !

Sunday Schedule

9:00AM Adult Sunday School

9:30AM - Coffee Hour

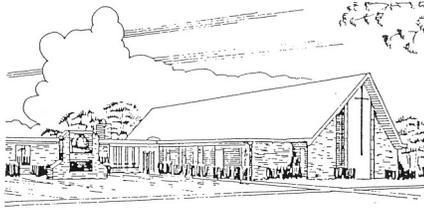
10:00AM - Worship

Bible Study

Tuesdays at 10AM

Prayer Group

Wednesdays at 9AM



June Worship Volunteers

June 5

Liturgist: Dale Lanning

Children's Moment: Pastor Karna

Ushers: Brooks Family

June 12

Liturgist: Lindi Kernan

Children's Moment: Dale Lanning

Ushers: Angie Briggs &

June 19

Liturgist: Roger Swanson

Children's Moment: Lindi Kernan

Ushers: Kurt Jordan

June 26

Liturgist: David Althaus

Children's Moment: Angie Althaus

Ushers: Silvis Family

Thank You Volunteers!

We are always
looking for more
Sunday morning
volunteers.

Please contact
the church office
if you can help

Upcoming Vacations

Desirae will be on vacation
June 4-12.

Pastor Karna will be on
vacation June 15-22



The righteous
man walks in
his integrity;
**His children
are blessed
after him.**

PROVERBS 20:7

Food Pantry Ice Cream Social & Silent Auction

The AlWood Food Pantry Ice Cream Social & Silent Auction is back!

When: Saturday, June 11

Where: Maranatha Chapel

Time: 5-7PM

Come for Whitey’s Ice Cream, pie, and desserts. Many silent auction items will be available including area business gift cards, themed baskets, and pies! Help support our AlWood Food Pantry!



Alpha Sesquicentennial Parade



Alpha UMC will have a float in this year’s Sesquicentennial parade, Saturday, September 10. We are looking for ideas for the float, and volunteers to help build it. If you have a idea, please let Pastor Karna know.



Final Month for Annual Shoe & Sock Drive

This is the final month for donating to ACF’s Project Respond. Donations of shoes, socks, underwear, and sports balls are all being accepted through July 8th.

Monetary donations are also being accepted to help offset the cost of shipping the donations to Romania. If you would like to donate, please write “ACF” on your check or envelope. Donations due July 8th.

Please contact Angie Althaus if you have any questions.

Let's Come Together as a commUNITY to Help the Garrow Family

Please see the below Facebook post from Angie Althaus to find out how you can help the Garrow family after a fire destroyed their home and possessions.

One of the Best Lessons:

It's the Unity in CommUNITY that gets the job done.

The Lindsay & Justin Garrow family of New Windsor suffered a total loss of their home & possessions last week.

Lindsay is a nurse at Genesis/Alpha and they have 3 kids.

- ◆ Their son Aleajah is 15 & size 18 in boys or small in shirts in men
- ◆ Their daughter Skye is 13. She is in a size 12/14 in girls or double zero in shorts/jeans,
- ◆ Zoey their youngest daughter is 8 years old and she is a 7/8.
- ◆ Dad Justin is a large in men and 34 in pants.
- ◆ Lindsay is a small in shirts and size 2 in jeans/shorts
- ◆ The family also has a dog, 2 cats, 2 parakeets & chickens that somehow survived the fire and/or were saved by the amazing firemen!
- ◆ The family is currently living in a hotel in Galesburg until they finalize all the insurance details. With the set up and kids out of school, it is becoming tough on all of them.

These are ways our CommUNITY can help:

- ◆ Jars/box have been set up at AlWood Pharmacy & Alpha Mart for the donations of funds or gifts cards for food, places to eat, or ways to replace their needs as they work to rebuild. ([Laura Foster](#) & [Donna Merideth](#) are the contacts at these places)
- ◆ Clothing or other items can be dropped off at [Angie Anderson Althaus](#) at 202 N Scandia in Alpha
- ◆ Family is searching for a rental property in or near New Windsor to make it easier for them to care for the animals they've had to leave at the property
- ◆ Pray over this family. That their needs will be met, that they find strength to work through all the emotions & realizations of such a devastating loss
- ◆ Any questions please contact/private message us!

Let's help this family .



Community VBS Carnival Family Fun Night!

When: Saturday, July 23

Time: 5-8PM

Where: Maranatha Chapel



Join us for a night at the carnival! Our community VBS is holding a family fun night! Come for carnival games, petting zoo, hot dogs, popcorn, cotton candy and more! Lots of fun games and prizes, all for free! Bring your friends and family!

More details coming soon!



Special Sunday: Peace with Justice

Special offering Sunday, June 12th

WHAT IS PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY?

United Methodists relate to this special Sunday by seeking peaceful solutions, creating and supporting peace-related ministries in their conference and learning about peaceful, just efforts around the world. Our Social Principles call us to love our enemies, seek justice, and serve as reconcilers of conflict. We insist that the first moral duty of all nations is to work together to resolve by peaceful means every dispute that arises between or among them.



June 2022

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1 9:00AM Prayer Group	2	3	4
5 Pentecost	6 Desirae on vacation thru 7/12 Legion Meal	7 1:00PM Bible Study	8 9:00AM Prayer Group	9 Annual Conference	10 Annual Conference	11 Annual Conference 5-7PM Food Pantry Silent Auction/Ice Cream Social
12	13 6:30PM Scouts	14 10:00AM Bible Study	15 9:00AM Prayer Group Pastor on vacation thru 6/22	16	17	18
19 Happy Father's Day!	20 6:30PM Scouts	21 10:00AM Bible Study	22 9:00AM Prayer Group	23	24 July Newsletter Deadline	25
26	27 6:30PM Scouts	28 10:00AM Bible Study	29 9:00AM Prayer Group	30		

ALPHA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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9:00AM Adult Sunday School

9:30AM Coffee Hour

10:00AM Worship

Visit us online at alphaumc.org and on



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