



# ALPHA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

211 North Scandia St., PO Box 607  
Alpha, IL 61413  
309-629-5161 | [www.alphaumc.org](http://www.alphaumc.org)

August 2023

Volume 2023 Issue 8

From The Upper Room:

By Melanie S. Fretz

*“If you stray to the right or the left, you will hear a word that comes from behind you:  
“This is the way; walk in it.”* Isaiah 30:21

Whether navigating through hospital corridors or driving down country roads, I am easily disoriented. I usually end up making a wrong turn or two and have to turn around. Part of the problem is that I am easily distracted and don't pay attention to the landmarks and signs posted along the way.

Sometimes our spiritual journey is like this. We may become distracted and miss the guidance God gives us. When we're lost, we can find our way back to God by purposefully seeking God and listening for God's guidance.

When we read and meditate on God's word, pray, and worship, we are more attuned to God's gentle promptings. Regular fellowship with other believers also helps us stay focused on God. The prophet Isaiah reminds us that we will hear a word guiding our steps when we make a conscious effort to listen to God. Even when we feel disconnected from God, we can find peace in the promise that God is waiting and will guide our steps.

**Prayer:** Dear God, thank you for being our Gentle Shepherd and for your promise to lead us and guide us always. We pray as Jesus taught us, “Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation.” (Luke 11:2-4, NIV). Amen.

## Church Council

Council Chair: Lindi Kernan  
 Treasurer: Parris Silvis  
 Financial Secretary: Linda Lanning  
 Trustees: Ian Yoder  
 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

**Council will meet  
 August 8 at 6:00PM.**

## 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: pastorkarna56@yahoo.com

## Let's Celebrate!

### August Birthdays

3: Marvin Enstrom  
 06: Kalani Mikaele  
 10: Aiden Catey  
 10: Makenna Medley  
 16: Candis Keller  
 17: Ed Schultz  
 18: Ron Medley

### August Anniversaries

18: Bill & Dana Schultz  
 21: Roger & Kelli Swanson  
 30: Kelly & Trudy Atchison



**Its back to school time!**

**Let's pray for a great year for our students of all ages!**



# Join Us !

## Sunday Schedule

8:45AM - Coffee Hour

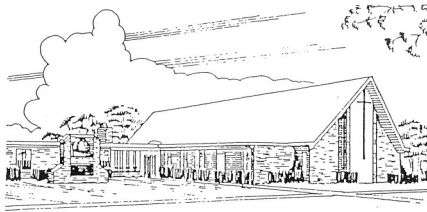
9:30AM - Worship

## Bible Study

10AM on Tuesdays

## Prayer Group

Wednesdays at 9:15AM



## August Worship Volunteers

### August 6

Liturgist: Bob Bateman

Children's Moment: Pastor Karna

Ushers: Brooks Family

### August 13

Liturgist: Lindi Kernan

Children's Moment: Roger Swanson

Ushers: Silvis Family

### August 20

Liturgist: Parris Silvis

Children's Moment: Dale Lanning

Ushers: Sadie Carlson & Jo Holdsworth

### August 27

Liturgist: Dale Lanning

Children's Moment: Lindi Kernan

Ushers: Erica Thorstenson & Devin Reed

## Thank You Volunteers!

We are always looking for more Sunday morning volunteers.

Please contact the church office if you can help.

# Volunteers Needed to Ring the Church Bell!

## (Kids & Youth - we need you!)

We are missing our outdoor bell ringing on Sunday mornings! We are looking for volunteers to ring the bell 5 times at 9:25AM before the service starts.

This would be a great job for our kids. A sign up sheet will be passed around this month. Thank you!



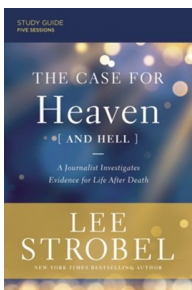
## AlWood Food Pantry Update

The AlWood Food Pantry will host the Legion Meal Monday, August 21. They will be serving sloppy joes, chips, baked beans, pasta salad, and desserts.

Alpha UMC has been asked to provide dish soap for the pantry each month. Other items often needed include peanut butter, coffee, spaghetti sauce, and soups. Please drop off donations in the bin in the fellowship hall.

The AlWood Food Pantry is open the first Tuesday of each month from 9:30-11:00AM. It is open to all residents of the AlWood School District.

## New Study Begins August 15!



Bob Bateman will be leading a study on the book *The Case for Heaven* by Lee Strobel. The study will be held Tuesdays at 10AM beginning August 15 and will run for 5 weeks. Please let Desirae know if you would like to participate so she can order your book.

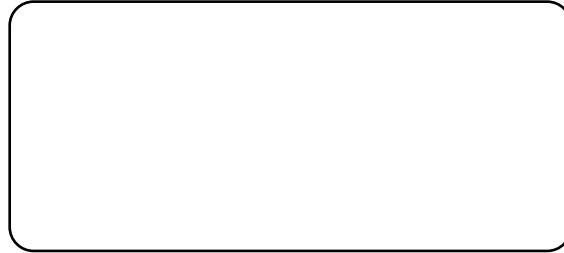
# August 2023



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1	2 9:15AM Prayer Group	3	4	5
6	7 6:30PM Scouts	8 6:00PM Council Meeting	9 9:15AM Prayer Group	10	11	12
13	14 6:30PM Scouts	15 10:00AM Case for Heaven Study	16 9:15AM Prayer Group  AlWood back to school	17	18	19
20	21 6:30PM Scouts	22 10:00AM Case for Heaven Study	23 9:15AM Prayer Group	24 8:00AM AlWood Pre-K Screening	25	26
27	28 6:30PM Scouts	29 10:00AM Case for Heaven Study	30 9:15AM Prayer Group	31		



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## **ALPHA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Sunday Schedule:

8:45AM Coffee Hour

9:30AM Worship

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