



ALPHA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

February 2026

Volume 2026 Issue 2

1 Corinthians 13:13: "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love".

John 15:12: "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you".

Love each other as I have loved you. I wonder what that looks like. I have felt the love of so many of you these last few months with my knee journey, and hopefully it's coming to an end on February 20 when I get a total knee replacement. I know so many have been praying for me and I really appreciate it. I can feel the love. There might be a couple of issues, which if that happens, I will let you know, but right now I'm hopeful the surgery will go on as planned. I love you all and appreciate all your love.

We are skipping Lunch and Craft with the Pastor in February. If all goes well, we'll probably have one at the end of March.

Loving each other like God loves us is so important. Imagine what the world would look like if we all practiced that. Can you imagine all of us getting along? No conflict, no arguing, no war. It would be wonderful, but we know the world is not like that. And we know we, as Christians, have to set good examples for the world to see. We need to love each other like God loves us. I'm sure we all try to achieve that, but as humans, we fail now and again. God expects that, he knows we are not perfect and we keep trying.

Pastor Karna



Church Council

Council Chair: Lindi Kernan
 Treasurer: Lindsy Brooks
 Financial Secretary: Linda Lanning
 Trustees: Ron Medley
 S/PPRC: David Althaus
 Nurture/Outreach: Angie Althaus & Gina Medley
 Worship: Linda Lanning
 Christian Education: TBD
 Men in Mission: Dean Kernan
 Member at Large: Sadie Carlson
 Lay Leader: Lindi Kernan
 Recording Secretary: Desirae Silvis

Next Council Meeting:

Tuesday, April 21
 6:30PM



Church Office Hours

9AM - 1PM— Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

309-629-5161

alphaumc@gmail.com

Website: www.alphaumc.org

Pastor Karna's Contact Info:

Cell: 309-337-2700

email: pastorkarna56@yahoo.com

Pastor's Office Hours

Monday 1-3PM

Tuesday 11AM—2PM

Thursday 9AM - 12PM

Wednesday is Pastor's day off

Pastor Karna is having knee surgery and will be on leave for up to 6 weeks beginning March 18

Let's Celebrate!

February Birthdays

02: Vicki Jordan Geiger

04: Bryton Brooks

16: Devin Reed

22: Ayla Catey

February Anniversaries

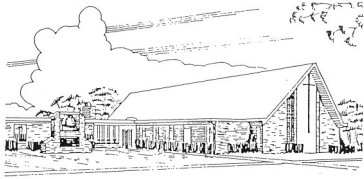
10: Ron & Linda Buban

13: Ron & Ruby Naslund



Love never fails.

Join Us !



Sunday Schedule

8:45AM - Coffee Hour

9:30AM - Worship

Prayer Group

Wednesdays 9:30AM



February Worship Volunteers

February 1

Liturgist: Roger Swanson

Children's Moment: Pastor Karna

Ushers: Erica Thorstenson & Devin Reed

Multimedia: Desirae Silvis

No Sunday School

Coffee Hour: Lannings

February 15

Liturgist: Angie Althaus

Children's Moment: Pastor Karna

Ushers: Kurt Jordan & Dave Lambin

Multimedia: Sadie Carlson

Sunday School Teacher/Helper: Need Volunteer

Coffee Hour: Kurt Jordan

February 8

Liturgist: Sadie Carlson

Children's Moment: Pastor Karna

Ushers: Parris & Desirae Silvis

Multimedia: Parris Silvis

Sunday School Teacher/Helper: Gina & Dawson

Coffee Hour: Alex & Kayli Gabriel

February 22

Pulpit Supply: Rev. Fielder - District Supt.

Liturgist: David Althaus

Children's Moment: Angie Althaus

Ushers: Erica Thorstenson & Devin Reed

Multimedia: Parris Silvis

Sunday School Teacher/Helper: Desirae & Angie B.

Coffee Hour: Ali & Family

Thank You

Volunteers!

We are always looking for more Sunday morning volunteers. Please contact the church office if you can help out.

Pastor Karna Medical Leave Supply Schedule

As many of you know, Pastor Karna will be on leave for at least two and up to six weeks beginning February 18 for knee replacement surgery. Below is the schedule of pulpit supply for the six weeks Pastor Karna may be absent:

February 22 - Rev. Dr. James Fielder, our District Superintendent

March 1 - Pastor Paul Newhall

March 8 - Anita Anderson

March 15 - Roger Swanson

March 22 - Roger Swanson

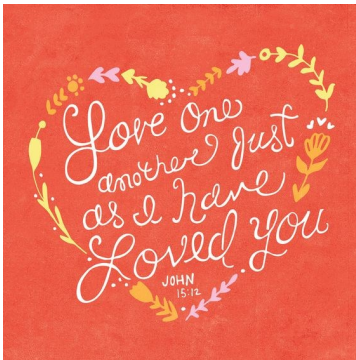
March 29 - Pastor Paul Newhall



While Pastor Karna is on leave, Pastor Paul Newhall and Pastor Lisa Unger are available if you need pastoral assistance.

Pastor Paul Newhall - 309-287-0465

Pastor Lisa Unger - 309-333-0729



AlWood Food Pantry

The AlWood Food Pantry is available to ALL residents of the AlWood School District. The food pantry is open the first Tuesday of each month from 9:30 - 11:00AM or by appointment. Please call Claudia Sage at 309-236-3650 for an appointment.

Alpha UMC has been asked to provide dish soap for the food pantry. Please drop off donations in the fellowship hall.



Welcoming Rev. Dr. James Fielder, West District Superintendent

On Sunday, February 22, our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. James Fielder, will be preaching at Alpha UMC. Please plan on attending this special service and welcoming Rev. Fielder to our church.

Below is some information about Rev. Fielder:

A native of St. Louis, Mo., Dr. Fielder is a decorated veteran, having served in the United States Marine Corps for 12 years and is a current member of the conference Board of Ordained Ministry.

At age 23, Fielder enlisted in the Marines where he received his call into the ministry.

"My life's work has been dedicated to leadership development, a calling I believe God has entrusted me," Dr. Fielder said. "I am committed to guiding others to the next level in their ministries, nurturing disciples who will spread the word of God and positively impact the world. My mission is to help others experience the love of Jesus Christ by fostering their spiritual growth, helping them discover their spiritual gifts, and preparing them for effective ministry."

Dr. Fielder has led campaigns from Camp Lejeune, N.C., to Okinawa, Japan, and San Diego, Calif., spearheading technology initiatives. He has received two Navy Achievement Medals for excellence in leadership and as an instructor Marine in his military operational specialty.

"For 18 years, I honed my leadership skills in the corporate sector, leading a team of ten technicians," he said. "Their work on various technology platforms, web development, networks, and service desks equipped me with the skills to manage and lead teams effectively."

In addition to his being on the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, Dr. Fielder is a board member, associate and facilitator of the Kaleidoscope Institute, which has as its mission "to train leaders to create gracious spaces for courageous conversations and consulting to heal and transform organizations." He is also an International Coaching Federation certified life coach. He is also chair of the IGRC chapter of Black Methodists for Church Renewal and has served on the BMCR national board of directors.

Fielder is a graduate of the University of Illinois with a double major in Organizational Leadership and Business Information Systems; master's degrees in religious education and church administration from Liberty University; a doctorate degree, focusing on self-awareness and leadership development from Northern Theological Seminary with an advanced course of study certificate from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary.

He and his wife, Tia are the parents of three children.



February 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1	2	3 6:00PM PEO	4	5 9:30AM Prayer Group	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 9:30AM Prayer Group 11:00AM Backpack Bags	13	14
15	16	17	18 Ash Wednesday (No Services)	19 9:30AM Prayer Group	20 Pastor Karna's knee surgery	21
22 1st Sunday in Lent Dist. Supt. Rev. Fielder Preaching	23	24	25 11:00AM Backpack Bags	26 8:30AM Pre-K Screening	27	28

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Visit us online at alphamc.org

ALPHA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Sunday Schedule:
8:45AM Coffee Hour
9:30AM Worship [®]

