



ALPHA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

October 2025

Volume 2025 Issue 10

Happy October! Don't you just love the cooler temperatures and all the pumpkin drinks and treats? I love this weather! The crops are being harvested by the look of the empty fields around. I pray for a continued safe harvest for all the farmers and good crops.

We had fun at Lunch and Craft Day and another is being planned for October 22. We will be making scarecrows. Don't forget about Trunk N Treat on Oct 31 at the church (this saves you from getting up and down during the night)!

How Well Do you Know Your Pastor?

Only one person played last month and they had the wrong answer, but because they played, they will get the point! Here is the next question: What is my favorite professional football team? Text me, email me, call me, or tell me your answer when you see me!

Pastor Karna



Church Council

Church Office Hours

9AM - 1PM— Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

- Council Chair: Lindi Kernan
- Treasurer: Parris Silvis
- Financial Secretary: Linda Lanning
- Trustees: Ron Medley
- S/PPRC: Dale Lanning
- Outreach/Nurture: Angie Althaus
Gina Medley
- Worship: Roger Swanson
- Christian Education: TBD
- Men in Mission: Dean Kernan
- Lay Leader: Lindi Kernan
- Recording Secretary: Desirae Silvis

Pastor's Office Hours:

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

Mondays 1-3PM
 Tuesday 11AM - 2PM
 Thursday 9AM - 12PM
 Wednesday is Pastor's Sabbath day off.

Church Council Meeting
Thursday, October 16
6:00PM

Let's Celebrate!

October Birthdays

- 02: Ned Nice
- 05: Linda Lambin
- 06: Annie Althaus
- 06: Deb Briggs
- 08: Stan Damron
- 15: Linda Lanning
- 20: Julie Cole
- 20: Kim Gillette

October Anniversaries

- 06: Melvin & Deb Briggs
- 24: Bryan & Lindsy Brooks



Join Us !

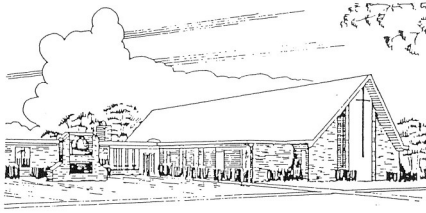
Sunday Schedule

8:45AM - Coffee Hour

9:30AM - Worship

Prayer Group

Thursdays 9:30AM



October Worship Volunteer Schedule

October 5

Liturgist: Angie Althaus

Children's Moment: Pastor Karna

Ushers: Parris & Desirae Silvis

Multimedia: Dean Kernan

Sunday School Teacher: Lindi Kernan

Sunday School Helper: Lindsy Brooks

Coffee Hour: Roger & Kelli Swanson

October 12

Liturgist: Sadie Carlson

Children's Moment: Pastor Karna

Ushers: Kurt Jordan & Dave Lambin

Multimedia: Parris Silvis

Sunday School Teacher: Desirae Silvis

Sunday School Helper: Angie Briggs

Coffee Hour: Miriam Greene

October 19

Liturgist: Dale Lanning

Children's Moment: Pastor Karna

Ushers: Parris & Desirae Silvis

Multimedia: Parris Silvis

Sunday School Teacher: Gina Medley

Sunday School Helper: Dawson Medley

Coffee Hour: Dale & Linda Lanning

October 26

Liturgist: Lindi Kernan

Children's Moment: Angie Althaus

Ushers: Sadie Carlson & Kurt Jordan

Multimedia: Dean Kernan

Sunday School Teacher: Dale Lanning

Sunday School Helper: Linda Lanning

Coffee Hour: Pastor Karna



A Letter To The Congregation

Dear Church Family,

Over the past several weeks, the leadership of Alpha and Faith United Methodist Churches has met together with our District Superintendent and Pastor Karna to discuss our shared hopes and challenges as we move forward in ministry. These meetings included the Ad Council Chairs and SPPRC Chairs from both congregations.

We came together because of three important factors:

1. The arrival of a new District Superintendent, which gave us an opportunity to reflect on the life and leadership of our churches.
2. The realities of our budget process, particularly in light of declining membership and financial pressures.
3. Concerns raised within our congregations regarding pastoral presence, community engagement, and sermon preparation and delivery.

Through prayerful and honest conversation, we reached agreements and set goals that will help us grow together in faith and ministry. Some key commitments include:

- **Preaching & Worship:** Pastor Karna will provide sermon titles and key points in advance, and will continue to strengthen her preparation by attending a preaching workshop this fall.
- **Presence & Engagement:** Pastor Karna will keep regular office hours with flexibility for pastoral needs, increase her presence before and after services, and participate in community events.
- **Pastoral Care:** A new pastoral care team will be created to support visitations and help ensure our members feel connected and cared for.
- **Communication & Accountability:** Leadership will hold monthly meetings with Pastor Karna, the SPPRCs will meet jointly every other month, and quarterly “gracious conversations” will be used to evaluate progress and keep communication open.

Vision for the Future: Work will continue with our District Superintendent and outside support to develop clear vision and mission statements, with the goal of strengthening discipleship and community impact. We want to assure you that your voices have been heard. These steps are being taken so that we can move forward together in faith, love, and service to God’s kingdom. We invite you to support Pastor Karna, your church leaders, and one another as we continue to grow as the Body of Christ.

Thank you for your prayers, your patience, and your ongoing commitment to the ministries of Alpha and Faith United Methodist Churches. We trust that God is at work among us and will guide us as we continue this journey together.

In Christ,

Lindi Kernan, Ad Council Chair – Alpha UMC

Doris Medhurst, Ad Council Chair – Faith UMC

David Althaus, SPPRC Chair – Alpha UMC

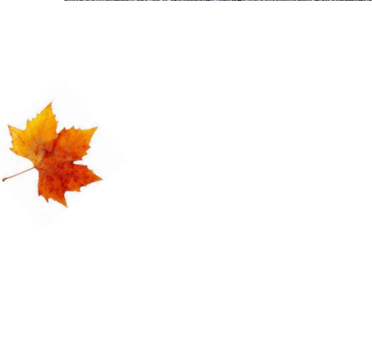
Kraig Boynton, SPPRC Chair – Faith UMC

Children's Sunday School Is Back!!!

In August, we had our Sunday School Kick Off to celebrate the return of Children's Sunday School at Alpha UMC. Kids and adults had fun playing games, including a pretty epic game of outdoor Jenga!

Children's Sunday School will be held each Sunday following the Children's Moment. Feel free to invite your friends! All are welcome!

Below are some pictures from our kick off.





**Alpha UMC Annual Trunk or Treat
Fellowship Hall
Halloween, October 31
6-8PM**

Alpha UMC will once again host its annual trunk or treat this Halloween. Tables will be available in the fellowship hall if you would like to set up a space. Candy donations are needed and can be dropped off in the basket in the fellowship hall.

We will be serving free hotdogs, chips, and hot chocolate. Please contact Gina Medley or Angie Althaus if you would like to help out.

*Lunch & Craft with Pastor Karna
Wednesday, October 22
12:00PM*

Join Pastor Karna for another Lunch & Craft!
This month we will be making scarecrows.



October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

Pastor Karna does so much for our congregation. October is the month to let her know how much we appreciate her. Please take a moment to let her know how much she means to our church family!

Thank you, Pastor Karna!



All Saints Tablecloth

Sunday, November 2nd is All Saints Sunday. We will once again use our All Saints tablecloth as the cloth for the communion table that day.

The cloth will be in the fellowship hall the last 2 weeks of October. Please add the names of any loved ones who have passed in the last year to the cloth and write them on the paper provided.



Operation Christmas Child

Believe it or not, it's time to start your Christmas shopping for Operation Christmas Child! We will once again be participating in Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Program. Shoeboxes will be available in mid October and will be due back to the church by November 16. Gift suggestions and labels will be available when boxes are set out to pick up.

Remember...

- ◆ All items must fit in your shoe box
- ◆ Feel free to use a shoebox you already have at home
 - ◆ Do not seal your box shut
- ◆ Fill out your label marking boy or girl and age group and affix it to the box



The ALWood Food Pantry is open on the first Tuesday of each month from 9:30 - 11:00AM and is available for ALL residents of the AlWood School District. There are no income requirements.

Alpha UMC has been asked to donate dish soap to the food pantry. Donations can be dropped off in the basket in the fellowship hall.

Please contact Angie Briggs, Julie Cole, or Desirae Silvis if you have any questions.

October 2025



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1 Pastor's Sabbath 6:00PM Book Club	2 9:30AM Prayer Group 12:00PM Backpack Bags	3	4
5	6	7 6:00PM PEO	8 Pastor's Sabbath	9 9:30AM Prayer Group	10	11
12	13 Columbus Day	14	15 Pastor's Sabbath	16 9:30AM Prayer Group 12:00PM Backpack Bags 6:00PM Council Meeting	17	18 Emmaus
19	20	21	22 Pastor's Sabbath 12:00PM Lunch & Craft	23 9:30AM Prayer Group 11:00AM Henry Co. Pastors Mtg.	24	25 Emmaus
26	27	28	29 Pastor's Sabbath	30 9:30AM Prayer Group 12:00PM Backpack Bags	31 6-8PM Trunk or Treat 	

Pastor's Calendar

October 2025



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1 6:00PM Book Club	2 6-8PM Class	3	4 2:00PM Wedding Shower
5	6 6-8PM Class Pastor Karna @ Preaching Workshop	7 6-8PM Class Pastor Karna @ Preaching Workshop	8 Pastor Karna @ Preaching Workshop	9 6-8:30PM Class	10	11
12	13 6-8:30PM Class	14 9:00AM Covenant Group	15 6:00PM Pre-Marital Counseling @ Galesburg	16 11:00AM Meeting	17	18
19	20 6 - 8:30PM Class	21 9:00AM Covenant Group 11:45AM Senior Social Galesburg 6-8PM Class	22	23 11:00AM Henry Co. Ministerial Coalition 6-8:30PM Class	24	25
26	27 9AM-3PM Class	28 9:00AM Covenant Group 9AM-3PM Class	29	30 9AM-3PM Class	31	

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ALPHA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Sunday Schedule:
9:00AM Adult Sunday School
9:30AM Coffee Hour
10:00AM Worship

