



# ALPHA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

211 North Scandia St., PO Box 607

Alpha, IL 61413

309-629-5161 | [www.alphaumc.org](http://www.alphaumc.org)

July 2026

Volume 2026 Issue 7

Hello Church:

As we stand at the threshold of this new cooperative parish, my heart is filled with immense hope, excitement, and expectation. Bringing our congregations together is not merely an administrative shift in pastoral leadership; it is a divine calling to witness to the power of unity we have in Christ.

In the book of Acts, we read that the early church thrived when the believers were "of one accord." This did not mean they were all exactly alike. It meant they shared a single, focused heartbeat: to love God, love one another, and serve the world.

Ministering together means we bring our diverse gifts, traditions, and stories to the same table. We are not losing our individual identities; rather, we are multiplying our strength. By blending our resources and passions, we can reach deeper into our communities, support one another through challenges, and shine Christ's light more brightly than any of us could alone.

This journey will require patience, open hearts, and a willingness to listen. There will be changes and adjustments that are a necessary part of this journey as we learn to walk in step with each other. If we keep our eyes fixed on our shared mission which is to make disciples and to transform lives for God then our differences will become our greatest assets.

Let us enter this new season with prayerful anticipation. I invite you to open your hearts to the members of each of our sister churches, to seek out ways to encourage one another, and to move forward as one body. Together, in one accord, there is no limit to what God can do through us.

I hope to see and meet many of you at our first joint worship service at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup> in the Orion Park across the street from the Orion UMC. Bring a lawn chair if you wish to be more comfortable than sitting at a picnic table. There will be a potluck afterwards so bring a dish to pass. We will also have games and activities after the potluck for kids of all ages. This will be a wonderful day of worship, fellowship, food, and fun...bring your whole family and invite your friends and co-workers to check out the new Cooperative Parish that they could be a part of from the very beginning.

Remember to "Be on your guard! Stand firm in your faith! Be men and women of courage! Be strong! Do everything in LOVE!" (1 Corinthians 16:13-14 paraphrased)

In Christ's Love,  
Pastor Lisa

## 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

Lay Leader: Lindi Kernan

Recording Secretary: Desirae Silvis

### Next Council Meeting:

Sunday, July 19th following  
worship

## Church Office Hours

**9AM - 1PM— Monday, Wednesday, Thursday**

309-629-5161

alphaumc@gmail.com

Website: [www.alphaumc.org](http://www.alphaumc.org)

### Pastor/CLM Contact Info

Pastor Lisa Unger: 309-333-0729

ungerlisa4@gmail.com

Pastor Cody Battefeld: 217-491-5773

pastorcodybattefeld@gmail.com

CLM Jozett McCoy: 309-737-3281

jzmccoy3@gmail.com

## Let's Celebrate!

### July Birthdays

02: Nadine Nice

04: Dana Schultz

06: Bill Schultz

21: Eric Atchison

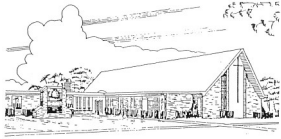
22: Phyllis Kearney

### July Anniversaries

26: Dale & Linda Lanning



## Join Us !



### Sunday Schedule

8:45AM Coffee Hour

9:30AM Worship



### July Worship Volunteers

#### July 5

10:00AM Cooperative Parish Joint Service  
Potluck and Games to follow.  
Please bring a dish to pass.

#### July 12

Preaching: Pastor Cody Battefeld  
Liturgist: Sadie Carlson  
Children's Moment: Dale Lanning  
Ushers: Parris & Desirae Silvis  
Multimedia: Parris Silvis  
SS Teacher & Helper: Need Volunteer  
Coffee Hour: Ali Catey & Family

#### July 19

Preaching: Jozett McCoy  
Liturgist: Lindi Kernan  
Children's Moment: Need Volunteer  
Ushers: Lindsy & Brylee Brooks  
Multimedia: Bryton Brooks  
SS Teacher & Helper: Dale & Linda Lanning  
Coffee Hour: Sadie Carlson

#### July 26

Preaching: Pastor Lisa Unger  
Liturgist: David Althaus  
Children's Moment: Angie Althaus  
Ushers: Kurt Jordan & Dave Lambin  
Multimedia: Sadie Carlson  
SS Teacher & Helper: Desirae Silvis & Angie B.  
Coffee Hour: Miriam Greene

### Thank You

### Volunteers!

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



## Cooperative Parish Joint Service & Potluck



Sunday, July 5th  
10:00AM



Orion Central Park

Let's all come together to worship and celebrate, as we begin our ministry as a cooperative parish. Worship will begin at 10:00AM with a potluck and games to follow. Please bring a dish to pass and a lawn chair.

## Parish Happenings

**Alpha UMC** - July 16-18 Community VBS July (more info. on page 5)

**Cambridge UMC** - July 12-16 VBS - 6:00PM each evening

July 25 - 5:00PM - Devotion and Games

**Orion UMC** - Thursday Night Worship every Thursday at 6:30PM

July 2 - First Thursday of the Month Meal - 5:30PM

July 6-10 Orion VBS

July 18 - 5:00PM Gather & Grill

July 24 - 6:00 - 7:30PM Bill Couch Revival Concert



**Join us at the Illumination Station Vacation Bible School!**  
Kids will explore God's love through fun activities, creative projects, exciting lessons, and hands-on experiences that help their faith shine bright. Come learn, laugh, and let your light shine!

**Where:** Maranatha Chapel  
2031 US-150, Alpha, IL 61413

**When:** July 16 & 17, 5:30-8:00 PM (dinner provided)  
July 18, 9:00-11:00 (program will follow)

**Who:** Pre-K - 6<sup>th</sup> grade  
Your child must be potty trained.  
7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> graders can take part in a class or help.

**Join us after the program on July 18<sup>th</sup> for lunch and family fun!**

**Please contact Angie Althaus or Gina Medley with questions.**  
**Registration forms will be available soon!**



**Community Prayer for  
Our Nation**

**Saturday, July 4th**

**9:00AM**

**Alpha Gazebo**

Join the Alpha Community in  
prayer on our nation's  
250th birthday!

**Devotion & Games at  
Cambridge UMC**

**Fourth Saturday of Each Month**

**5:00PM**

Join Pastor Lisa for a devotion and  
games (dominoes/board games)  
on July 25th at 5PM. Dinner will be  
provided.



**LIVE FROM NASHVILLE, TN!**

**ERNIE COUCH & REVIVAL**

Coming to Orion  
Friday, July 24  
6:00—7:30PM  
Orion UMC Activity Center 407 12 AVE Orion

**FOLLOW ERNIE COUCH & REVIVAL ON YOUR FAVORITE DIGITAL OR SOCIAL MEDIA SITE!**

**Concert in Orion!**

Friday, July 24th

6:00-7:30PM

Orion UMC Activity Center

407 12 AVE Orion

Free Admission

(Love offering taken)

Sponsored By:

Orion Area  
Churches Association



# July 2026

| SUN                                                                        | MON | TUES | WED | THURS                                                                                  | FRI                                                   | SAT                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|------|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                            |     |      | 1   | 2<br>5:30PM<br>Orion Meal<br>6:30PM<br>Orion Thurs.<br>Worship                         | 3                                                     | 4<br> |
| 5<br>10:00AM<br>Joint Service<br>& Potluck at<br>Orion Park<br>All Pastors | 6   | 7    | 8   | 9<br>6:30PM<br>Orion Worship<br>w/ Jozett                                              | 10                                                    | 11<br>5:30PM<br>River Bandits<br>Faith &<br>Family Night                                 |
| 12<br>Worship w/<br>Pastor Cody                                            | 13  | 14   | 15  | 16<br>5:30PM -<br>8:00PM<br>VBS @<br>Maranatha<br>6:30PM<br>Orion Worship<br>w/ Jozett | 17<br>5:30PM -<br>8:00PM<br>VBS @<br>Maranatha        | 18<br>9:00AM -<br>11:00AM<br>VBS @<br>Maranatha<br>Program &<br>Cookout to<br>follow     |
| 19<br>Worship w/<br>CLM Jozett<br><br>Council<br>Meeting<br>Following      | 20  | 21   | 22  | 23<br>6:30PM<br>Orion Worship<br>w/ Jozett                                             | 24<br>6:00PM<br>Ernie Couch<br>Concert @<br>Orion UMC | 25<br>5:00PM<br>Devotion &<br>Games @<br>Cambridge<br>UMC                                |
| 26<br>Worship w/<br>Pastor Lisa                                            | 27  | 28   | 29  | 30<br>6:30PM<br>Orion Worship<br>w/ Pastor Lisa                                        | 31                                                    |                                                                                          |

# July 2026 Alpha UMC Pastor Office Schedule

*Office hours will be announced and may vary.*

| SUN                                                                        | MON                                             | TUES                | WED                                            | THURS             | FRI                          | SAT                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                            |                                                 |                     | 1                                              | 2<br>Pastor Cody  | 3<br>Pastor Cody<br>Sabbath  | 4<br> |
| 5<br>10:00AM<br>Joint Service<br>& Potluck at<br>Orion Park<br>All Pastors | 6<br>Pastor Lisa<br>Sabbath                     | 7<br>Pastor Lisa    | 8<br>Pastor Lisa<br><br>CLM Jozett<br>Sabbath  | 9<br>Pastor Cody  | 10<br>Pastor Cody<br>Sabbath | 11                                                                                       |
| 12<br>Worship w/<br>Pastor Cody                                            | 13<br>Pastor Cody<br><br>Pastor Lisa<br>Sabbath | 14<br>CLM Jozett    | 15<br>CLM Jozett<br>Sabbath                    | 16<br>Pastor Lisa | 17<br>Pastor Cody<br>Sabbath | 18                                                                                       |
| 19<br>Worship w/<br>CLM Jozett                                             | 20<br>Pastor Cody<br><br>Pastor Lisa<br>Sabbath | 21<br>Pastor Jozett | 22<br>Pastor Lisa<br><br>CLM Jozett<br>Sabbath | 23<br>Pastor Lisa | 24<br>Pastor Cody<br>Sabbath | 25                                                                                       |
| 26<br>Worship w/<br>Pastor Lisa                                            | 27<br>Pastor Cody<br><br>Pastor Lisa<br>Sabbath | 28<br>CLM Jozett    | 29<br>CLM Jozett<br>Sabbath                    | 30<br>Pastor Lisa | 31<br>Pastor Cody<br>Sabbath |                                                                                          |



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Sunday Schedule:  
8:45AM Coffee Hour  
9:30AM Worship

