



The CROSS & FLAME

SEPTEMBER 2024

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

167 S. Ripley Blvd. Alpena, MI 49707

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our vision is to follow Jesus Christ

STAFF

Rev. Robert Nystrom,
Pastor

Russ Anderson,
Custodian/Maintenance

Robin Rayment, Bookkeeper
Seeking a new
Administrative Assistant

PASTOR

**Appointments available
upon request.**

Pastor Rob: (989) 415-3830

OFFICE HOURS

Please call or email
for office hours

Office: (989) 354-2490

Fax: (989) 358-8150

E-mail:
alpenafumc@gmail.com

Watch videos of our services on
YouTube, Facebook, and our
website:

alpenafirstumethodist.org

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship Service 9:30 am

Hearts to Home - Wednesdays 11-1 pm

September 1—OFFICE CLOSED

Happy Labor Day

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

5—JOY Fellowship 10am

8—Charge Conference 5:30pm
in Ossineke

10—Basket Guild 5-8pm

11—Sewing Group 10am—1pm
Bunco 6-10pm

12—MARSF 11am-2pm

12—SPRC 6pm

16—Parkinson's Group 1pm

17—Ad Council 6:30pm

18—Sewing Group 10am—1pm

21—John & Patty's Wedding—1pm

23—October Newsletter Deadline

25—Sewing Group—10am—1pm

26—Basket Guild—3-8pm

30—Blood Drive—10am—2pm

Items of Note for September

Fall Picnic on Sept. 8 right after worship service

HEARTS TO HOME REPORT

Many thanks for the generous donations.

Month	Money Collected	# of Families	# of Individuals	# of Items Distributed
August		7	11	111

JOY Fellowship Meeting Date

Please note that the September meeting date for JOY Fellowship has been changed from Wednesday, September 4 to Thursday, September 5. We will meet at 10am in the overflow room. Natalie Francis from Hope Shores Alliance will be our speaker after the business meeting. Our salad luncheon will follow. The officers will provide the beverages, rolls, and salad greens. Each lady is to bring an ingredient for the salad bar such as tomato, cucumbers, cheese, onions, etc. Anyone having a special salad dressing is asked to bring it as well. JOY invites all ladies to attend and enjoy the fellowship.

A SPECIAL THANK-YOU to the United Methodist women who provided the beautiful cake and gifts for all of our First UMC 2024 graduates. To all of you who recognized Joshua's graduation with a card and gift, thank you. To all of you who have expressed your support with well-wishes and prayers while Joshua is at Great Lakes Recruit Training Command, thank you. We greatly appreciate your generosity, kindness, and prayers. With our gratitude, Joshua, Pastor Rob and Ronda

Office News

Dear Alpena First UMC,

I find myself very concerned about how this church will continue operations.

I am no longer able to work in the office here, as much as I'd like to continue to help. My own congregations have needs to be met.

As of today, Alpena FUMC has not hired a Administrative Assistant. This leaves the office unstaffed. No one to do all the things that are necessary for the church to continue operations.

Please come together as a group and work out a schedule of volunteers to answer phones, work with the computer, sell pasties, prepare and print the bulletin, write the newsletter, sort the mail, etc. I've left an Administrative Assistant Job Description on the office desktop. You do have a qualified candidate who is willing to step in, she is delayed by need for an SPRC vote.

Now is the time to "Be the Church." Please talk with Pauline Buchner, Larry Thomson, Pastor Rob, other church leaders, and with each other. This is a call to action.

I know you are fully capable of doing this. I have seen great things happen here when you've all pulled together. Do that again.

I will continue to keep you in my prayers.

In Christ, Janice

Janice's last day to help in the office was Aug. 28. She is willing to come back in on Monday Sept. 9 to train in a new Administrative Assistant. After that she will not be able to assist. We thank Janice for stepping in to help us after Sandy was no longer able to work. Please continue to keep Sandy in your prayers.

September 2024 Schedule

Liturgists

1
8
15
22
29

Acolytes

Zach Cook, Betty Gordon,

Greeters

1 Jean Corn
8 Ron & Kaye Ross
15 Jean Corn
22 Monna Bennett
29 Jean Corn

Ushers

1 Ken & Zach Cook
8
15
22 Pete & Linda Rasmussen
29

Couriers

1 Larry Thomson
8 Scott Koproski
15 Bill McConnell
22 Ken Cook
29 Larry Thomson

Hearts to Home

4 Ron Ross
11 Cathy Moore
18 Pam Alexander
25 Carolyn Anderson

Sunday School Teachers

Power Point– Bill King or Robin Benson

Please step up
to fill one or
more of the
open position
for this month.



September

3 Lillian Broad
12 Monna Bennett
13 Alice Huiting
14 Mary Pilarski
16 Glenn Diemons
16 Grayson Kolnowski
18 Ryder Kolnowski
18 Jill Lutes
19 Bailee Diamond
20 Lois Damoth
21 Darwin Badder
22 Eulah Benson
25 Ken Cook
26 Rebecca Bey



15 Steven & Susan Kolnowski
17 Tom & Mary Leavesley
20 Dennis & Nichole Kolnowski
21 Pat & Peggy Stanton
29 Tom & Jennifer Dutcher

SEPTEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship 9:30am	2 Happy Labor Day Church Office Closed	3	4	5 JOY Fellowship Salad Luncheon 10am GTPQuilters 4:30–8pm	6	7
8 Worship 9:30am Communion Fall Picnic Charge Conference in Ossineke 5:30pm	9	10 Finance 6pm Basket Guild 5–8pm	11 Sewing Group 10am–1pm Bunco 6– 10pm	12 MARSP 11am–2pm SPRC 6pm	13	14
15 Worship 9:30am	16 Parkinson's Group 1pm	17 Ad Council 6:30pm	18 Sewing Group 10am–1pm	19	20	21 John & Patty's Wedding 1pm
22 Worship 9:30am Fall Equinox First Day of Autumn	23 Newsletter Deadline	24	25 Sewing Group 10am–1pm	26 Basket Guild 3–8pm	27	28
29 Worship 9:30am	30 Versiti Blood Drive 10am– 2pm					