



December 2025



Association of Lifelong Learners
665 Johnson St., Alpena, MI 49707
989-358-7207


Email: all@alpenacc.edu
Website: associationoflifelonglearners.org
Office Hours: Mon & Fri -11:00 am—3:00 pm
Tues & Thurs 9:00 am -1:00 pm—Closed Wed

*Production of the ALL Program Guide
is generously sponsored by McFalda Law Office.*

Universalism: Is the Eternal Suffering of Hell Real?
Tuesday, December 2, 2025 **1:30-3:00 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 140
Coordinator: Judy Nichols **517-663-4970**

What does the church teach about Life After Death? Must a Christian believe in a place of eternal torment? Is it possible that even people like Adolf Hitler and Stalin will suffer for all eternity? As a pastor, I cannot count the number of times I have been asked by someone at a funeral about the concept of eternal torment in hell. Many times, my answer surprises people when I say that no one is condemned to hell for eternity. Many early church fathers wrote about the salvation of all, and even acknowledged Catholic saints have held the position that there is no eternal damnation. There is a growing number of Christian writers who also deny the concept of eternal damnation. Does God reconcile all people into God's love?

Bob Case is a pastor emeritus from the First Congregational United Church of Christ and keeps trying to enjoy his full retirement. He continues to offer thoughtful presentations giving ALL members much to consider and ponder.



Writing Workshop
Wednesday, December 3, 2025 **11:00 am – 12:30 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143
Number of attendees? Minimum #:3 Maximum #:12
Coordinator: MaryAnn Krajnik Crawford **989-916-5540**

This writing workshop series focuses on writing, sharing, and feedback. Everyone has stories, some are told, some are written, and some, like memoirs, are written to be shared with others.

Mary Ann Krajnik Crawford has been a personal journal writer and teacher of writing for many years.

Bridge Michigan
Thursday December 4, 2025 **1:00 –2:30 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 140
Coordinator: Wendy Payne **703-472-5862**

Justin Hinkley, former publisher of The Alpena News and current regional editor of Bridge Michigan, will present the history of Bridge Michigan, its expanded coverage of northern Michigan, its northern Michigan newsletter, and ways northern Michiganders can get involved.

Justin Hinkley started his career at his hometown paper, the Battle Creek Enquirer, 20 years ago, covering everything from rock bands to school boards. After eight years at the Enquirer, he spent four years as an investigative reporter for the Lansing State Journal covering state government before moving to Alpena in 2018 to take over as managing editor of the Alpena News. In 2021, he took over as publisher of the Alpena News and served in that role until joining Bridge Michigan.

Local Judge Supports Deployed Troops
Monday, December 8, 2025 **3:00 –4:00 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 140
Coordinator: Wendy Payne **703-472-5862**

Chief Judge Ed Black of the 26th Circuit Court of Alpena and Montmorency counties was deployed overseas during the first six months of 2025 through the Michigan National Guard Judge Advocate General’s (JAG) Corps. Judge Black will talk about his duties supporting the 1st Armored Division in Romania and their mission - Operation Atlantic Resolve.

The Honorable K. Edward Black is a judge in the 26th Circuit Court, MAJ in the United States Army Reserves serving in the 9th Legal Operations Detachment. Judge Black was recently deployed with the 1st Armored Division to MKAB Romania. Judge Black is married to Meaghan Black, principal for Ella White Elementary School. They have three children, Cooper, Andrew, and Emily who all graduated from Alpena High School.

PACE program of NEMSCA—Information and Tour
Tuesday, December 9, 2025 **1:30-2:30 pm**
PACE Facility located in the former Peebles store 2676 US 23 South
Coordinator: Linda Ferguson assisted by Judy Reimann **402-679-7669**

Executive director of PACE Northeast Michigan will lead a tour of the PACE facility on South US 23. PACE is a comprehensive scope of healthcare and supportive services empowering qualifying older adults to age in place. Jeff will present to the Association on the topic of the *Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly*, or PACE and answer your questions. PACE Northeast Michigan has a state of the art 17,000 + sq ft center in Alpena.

Prior to PACE NEMI, **Jeffrey Meden** was the Vice President for MyMichigan Medical Group and was a former nuclear medicine technologist who managed research trials in nuclear cardiology at Michigan Medicine. After growing up in Alpena, Jeff attended college at Ferris State, Eastern Michigan and completed his graduate education at The University of Michigan. Jeff's 3 children are the 7th generation of his family to call Alpena "home".

If you missed an ALL program that you wanted to catch, you may find it on our YouTube channel. Over 200 programs have been recorded and can be found here:
<https://www.youtube.com/@associationoflifelonglearn3593>



Behind the Scenes at Alpena High School
Wednesday, December 10, 2025 **3:00-4:00 pm**
Alpena High School, 3303 S. Third,
Park in back by greenhouse on Garden and 5th St.
Coordinator: Marcia Connelly assisted by Cindy Kelly **989-356-2582**

Are you curious about the upgrades that have been made at Alpena High School? Here is a chance to see how safe entries have been provided to make the staff and student population safer. This mini tour will also include these and other new additions.

Romeo Bourdage is the Principal of Alpena High School. He was recently named one of three finalists for the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals 2026 Principal of the Year award. Bourdage’s nomination reflects his joyous and energetic approach to education as well as a special ability to connect with students, parents and the community at large during his 34 years with Alpena Public Schools. Bourdage received his undergraduate degree from Western Michigan University, his Masters in Counseling from Central Michigan University, and his Ed Specialist from Grand Valley State University.

December Happening - St. Bernard’s Friendship Room
Thursday, December 11, 2025 **3:30 - 5:00 pm**
Friendship Room - 322 W. Chisholm St., Alpena
Coordinator: Jere Doyle **989-340-0858**

On Thursday December 11, 2025, we will be celebrating our 13th annual dinner with the clients of the Friendship Room. Our social hour will begin at 3:30 P.M. with dinner to follow beginning at 4:00 P.M. Membership generosity in the past has resulted in contributions in excess of \$1,000 per year. If writing a check make it payable to All Saints – Alpena. On the memo line write Friendship Room. If you would prefer not to provide a monetary contribution it is suggested that you purchase a gift card from one of the following merchants: Gordon Food, Meijer, Walmart or a Dial-A-Ride voucher. Or provide any of these food items – baked beans, broth, butter, mayonnaise, Chicken or Beef broth. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible to share a meal with the community at the Friendship Room.



Adventures in Music with Songs of the Season
featuring ***Carole Cadarette*** leading the Sing Along.
Thursday, December 11, 1:30 to 3:00 PM
Granum Theatre ACC

Book Lovers Gathering
Monday, December 15, 2025 **1:30-3:00 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143
Coordinator: Carey Rapin **989-354-3046**

Many of us love to give and receive books to and from our loved ones for Christmas. Our December book gathering is an opportunity to share our favorite books, including children’s books. Please join our enthusiastic group of readers to share ideas. If you would like to bring a book to share or give away, please do so.

Carey Rapin remembers fondly receiving books for Christmas and siting in a cozy chair on Christmas night reading quietly by the Christmas tree with all blue lights.

Northeast Michigan Tragedy: The Metz 1908 Fire
Tuesday, December 16, 2025 **1:30 to 2:30 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 140
Coordinator: Sue Jackowiak **989-379-3313**
Zoom: Meeting ID: 869 2568 1136 Passcode: 266531

In the late morning of October 15, the Metz Fire of 1908 started somewhere west of Millersburg, Michigan. By evening, 37 people were dead. The village of Metz was a charred and smoking ruin. Glory Kelderhouse, a Metz native, has spent the last 7-8 years researching and gathering information on the fire. She is descended from those who lived through the fire and has relatives who did not. Learn about the fire that jumped Grand Lake and reached the northern part of Alpena. “ At two o’clock in the morning a boy by the name of Dost brought in the charred remains of his little sister in a handkerchief.” The Detroit Times, October 19, 1908.

Glory Kelderhouse was raised in Metz, Michigan, Gloria moved away for over 45 years and returned to the family’s homestead in 2018. When she returned she realized just how important the Metz fire was to the area and Michigan history. She became determined that the Metz fire story would not be lost to history. She is the fourth generation to live in her home which survived the fire and became a “hospital” for people who survived the fire. Her grandmother was 13 at the time of the fire and living in the home on Gerald Road which is named for Glory’s father.

ALL prefers that you register for our programs, but if things change in your schedule, give the ALL office a call @ (989) 358-7207 or call the program coordinator to let us know you are coming or not.



ALL Photography Club
Tuesday, December 16, 2025 (3rd Tuesday-monthly) 7:00 – 9:00 pm
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143
Coordinator: Dick Bremer 989-727-8028
Zoom Meeting ID: 847 0459 7928 Passcode: 635146

Join in the discussions about photographic techniques and equipment. Or just stop in and check out some of the photos from Club members and visitors. All skill levels are welcome. Join us in-person or on Zoom.



Journal Writing
Wednesday, December 17, 2025 11:00 – 12:30 pm
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143
Coordinator: Mary Ann Krajnik Crawford 989-916-5540

This session invites us to write for ourselves and others. Journal writing is a first step for creating stories, capturing memories, and exploring our ideas and feelings. This is writing for fun and insight in a no-pressure atmosphere. You can write in response to prompts I will bring or about whatever you choose, and you can do as much or as little writing and sharing as our time allows.

Mary Ann Krajnik Crawford has been a personal journal writer and teacher of writing for many years. She retired from Central Michigan University as an emeritus professor of English and director of the Writing Center and continues to write for the fun of it.

Hands on Making Christmas Candy with Lisa
Wednesday, December 17, 2025 2:00 – 4:00 pm
Alpena Senior Center, 501 River St., Alpena meet in kitchen
Coordinator: Wendy Payne 703-472-5862
\$10 for candy supplies payable at the time of event

Interested in learning how to make Christmas candy? We will be making peanut butter balls (regular and low sugar), rum balls, Samoa truffles, lemon truffles, Irish cream espresso truffles, and white chocolate cranberry pecan clusters and peppermint bark. We will taste test our efforts when done. You will be given copies of the recipes and bring a container to take some candy home too!

Lisa Rosenbeck is an avid ALL member who recently retired and loves to bake!



Mrs. Goody Claus, An Afternoon with Mrs. Claus
Thursday, December 18, 2025
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 140
Coordinator: Sue O'Neil

1:30-2:30 pm
586-216-1177

Everyone knows Santa Claus and now you will have an opportunity to sit down with Mrs. Goody Claus, hear her stories and gain more reindeer information than you never wanted to know. Join us for a fun Christmas time with Goody Claus.

Lisa Heileman began educating children about Santa, live reindeer and ended up as Mrs. Goody Claus. She has also become Easter Bunny, (that is, Josephine Rabbit) , Loretta Lleprehand and oopie Do the clown—all with their own stories.



Have a presentation or hobby to share? Know someone who has presentation or hobby to share? Have a topic you would like to learn more about. Contact the ALL Office to at 989-358-7207 or email all@alpenacc.edu to share your ideas . ALL is always looking for new material .

The A&L Board and Staff wish everyone a
happy holiday season!

Christmas Stars

The golden Christmas stars
shine down
With a cheerful Christmas glow,
And twinkle a Yuletide message
To the busy world below;
They tell of the peace and good will
The Christmas time brings to earth,
The peace and good will all
should feel
At this season of joy and mirth.
-Marie Irish



DECEMBER RECURRING SESSIONS



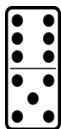
PICKLEBALL
Monday, Wednesday, Friday **9:00 - 11:00 am**
APlex
Coordinator: Pamela Borchert **989-464-6044**

Pickleball continues. Call the APlex for additional info @ 989-354-6164.
APlex fees apply.



Duplicate Bridge
Mondays **12:15 – 4:00 pm**
Call for Location in Alpena. Call Marcy at 989-354-2306
or Bev at 989-595-5119 for more information

This is a form of Bridge where partners play a fixed set of hands in competition with several other partners to see who does the best. This form of Bridge is for experienced Bridge partners interested in some friendly competition. It is also appropriate for individual experienced Bridge players interested in subbing from time to time.



Mexican Train Dominoes
Tuesdays **9:15 - 11:30 am**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143
Coordinator: Eileen Wikaryasz **989-340-0608**

Ready for a fun, addictive and fast-moving game that has lots of surprising twists and turns? Join us for Mexican Train Dominoes! You may join our class any time during the year.



Pinochle
Wednesdays **12:30 - 3:00 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 140
Coordinator: Mary Ann Kenne **989-255-4414**

Julie Byrnes is inviting you to join her and others in single deck Pinochle on Wednesdays.

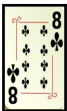
ALL is supported by membership fees. Guests are always welcome. A modest donation from guests for the value of your experience is always appreciated.

RECURRING SESSIONS



Spitzer
Thursdays **10:00 - 11:30 am**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 140
Coordinator: Marilyn Klingshirn **989-354-0884**

Spitzer is a challenging card game that requires lots of concentration. It is played extensively in our area, mainly around Rogers City, Alpena, Posen, and regular tournaments are held. Spitzer-challenged people are welcome to come learn the game. Experienced players are welcome to come enjoy playing and guiding the newbies. Name tags encouraged.



Contract Bridge
Fridays **12:30 - 3:00 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 140
Coordinator: Julie Byrnes **734-761-2123**

This is an ongoing group of varied players who welcome all players at any time. We are a teaching class but welcome experienced players also.



Square Dancing
Fridays **4:00 - 6:00 pm**
Call Glenn Taylor for Location
Coordinator: Glenn Taylor **803-292-9613**

Dancing is the Best Activity for Brain Health - Square Dancing is super fun as well! Come join our very active group. No partner needed. Singles and beginners are welcome! We meet most Fridays from 4-6 PM. Call Glenn at 803-292-9613 for location.

Recurring Programs are held the same day of the week in any given month. To find detailed dates of these programs, please refer to the Calendar on Page 11.

December 2025

S	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	S
30	1 Pickleball 9 :00 -11:00 am Dup Bridge 12:15 - 4 pm	2 Dominoes 9:15 -11:30 am Universalism 1:30-3:00 pm	3 Pickleball 9:00 –11:00 am Writing Workshop 11:00-12:30 pm Pinochle 12:30-3:00 pm	4 Spitzer 10 - 11:30 am Bridge Michigan 1:00-2:30 pm	5 Pickleball 9 :00 -11:00 am Bridge 12:30 - 3:00 pm Sq Dancing 4 - 6 pm	6
7	8 Pickleball 9 :00 -11:00 am Dup Bridge 12:15 - 4 pm Local Judge Supports Troops 3:00-4:00 pm	9 Dominoes 9:15 -11:30 am Pace Program 1:30-2:30 pm	10 Pickleball 9:00 –11:00 am Pinochle 12:30-3:00 pm Behind the Scenes—AHS 3:00-4:00 pm	11 Spitzer 10 - 11:30 am Adventures in Music– 1:30 pm-3:00 pm Granum Theatre December Happening 3:30-5:00 pm	12 Pickleball 9:00 –11:00 am Bridge 12:30 - 3:00 pm Sq Dancing 4 - 6 pm	13
14	15 Pickleball 9 :00 -11:00 am Dup Bridge 12:15 - 4 pm Book Lovers 1:30-3:00 pm	16 Dominoes 9:15-11:30 am Northeast Michigan Tragedy 1:30-2:30 pm Photography Club 7:00-9:00 pm	17 Pickleball 9:00-11:00 am Journal Writing 11:00-12:30 pm Pinochle 12:30-3:00 pm Making Candy 2:00-4:00 pm	18 Spitzer 10 - 11:30 am Mrs. Goody Claus 1:30-2:30 pm	19 Pickleball 9 :00 -11:00 am Bridge 12:30 - 3:00 pm Sq Dancing 4 - 6 pm	20
21	22 Pickleball 9:00-11:00 am Dup Bridge 12:15– 4:00 pm	23 Dominoes 9:15-11:30 am	24 Christmas Eve ACC Closed	25 Christmas	26 Pickleball 9 :00 -11:00 am	27
28	29 Pickleball 9 :00 -11:00 am Dup Bridge 12:15– 4:00 pm	30 ACC Closed	31 Pickleball 9:00-11:00 am	1 New Years Day	5 Pickleball 9 :00 -11:00 am Bridge 12:30 - 3:00 pm Sq Dancing 4 - 6 pm	6



665 Johnson St.
Madeline Briggs Building
Alpena, MI 49707

Laugh, Learn, Live with ALL @ ACC