



**Special points of interest:**

**1942—2017**

Alpine Lutheran  
Celebrates

**75 Years**

In service to God

Contact:

office@alpinelutheran.com

**In this issue:**

Special Thank You 3

Advent 2017 3

Help Needed for Meal  
with Academy 4

ELCA Federal Credit  
Union 5

**From the Pastor's Desk:**

Monday, November 13, 2017

Volume 44, Issue 22

*Remembering 75 years of God's Faithfulness*

Throughout this past year we have taken time to remember how faithful God has been to our fellowship. God's grace has flown, lives have been changed, hope revealed, forgiveness spread, and salvation proclaimed! The marks of a faithful community of God (rejoicing, loving, forgiving, serving, and sharing the good news) have been present throughout our history and the faithful generations of Alpine members have left us a great legacy to follow.

Being a faithful community is not easy. We need patience, love, acts of servitude and kindness. We need to be shining examples of how God can bring healing and change into a life. Examples that the world around us can see and cling to. We need God most of all. God's transforming presence and never-ending supply of grace and forgiveness. It is easy to wander off course, to get lost or confused, and to stop being the people God has asked us to be. The stories and testimonies of those who have gone before are great sources of encouragement, hope, and guidance.

I would like to thank all of the members of our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee and all the volunteers that have lead us in remembering our legacy – and challenging us to realize that it is Our Turn Now. Our turn to take up our cross and use the life, opportunities, and gifts that God has given us to enable others to come to Jesus and experience the power of God's love and forgiveness. Thank you all for guiding us and helping us to remember and refocus our mission.

*Advent Worship Series: What Child Is This?*

Please join us this year as we prepare for Christmas by examining how Mary, Joseph, The Shepherd, and The Wise Man first experienced the baby Jesus. At its heart Advent is about getting ready for Jesus. Each year as our culture becomes more and more overwhelmed with its own version of Christmas, the birth of Jesus and the wonder and awe of the greatest miracle ever seen is lost. It becomes harder and harder to connect to Jesus as we are bombarded with cultural chaos, December Christmas parties, the need to buy gifts, and so much more that this time of year becomes a time of disconnect instead of a time of waiting with expectation. With this in mind, we have decided that during our advent worship services this year we are going to try and recapture the wonder and awe of Christmas by focusing on some of those very first reactions people had of Jesus and how that first Christmas changed their lives. This will mean that some of the Bible texts and Christmas hymns that we usually read and experience after Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> will be encountered during advent this year. We hope this will help us to connect more with the celebration of Christmas during what is an admittedly hectic and stressful time of year.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Attendance 10/29/17                      62 + 61                      123                      Attendance 11/5/17                      72 + 53                      125

**Required total receipts weekly.....\$8,452.92**

Gen Fund 10/29/17	\$2,847.45	Gen Fund 11/5/17	\$10,533.75
Forward in Faith	\$1,045.00	Forward in Faith	\$4,262.00
Surplus/Deficit	-\$4,560.47	Surplus/Deficit	+\$6,342.83

53/54 Week.....\$85.00

**Surplus/Deficit YTD..... -\$15,861.35 (9/30/17)**

### **Pray for Alpine members:**

Liz Bertolotto, Rick Bried, Pat Christiansen, Richard & Nancy Ewert, Doris Fransen, Marybeth Gillette, Jan Hill, Louise Hemenway, Alyce Krusemeier, Les Johnson, Peggy Lillegaard, Norma Lucas, Marguerite Luth, Barbara Nelson, Irene Northrup, Ron Pauly, Gerry Perala, Betty Peterson, Bob (Sue) Peterson, and Donna Steele.

### **Pray for our friends and family of Alpine:**

Steve Abbott, Kim Braun, Linda Carter, Jim Coffman, Linda Conness, Jerome Gill, Daniel Hendrickson, Pr. Woody Knutson, Kathleen Lovins, Maryann Moorhouse, Carol Nelson, Leslie Olson, Aileen Petersen, Tom Rogers, Jim & Joann Salter, Bob Schult, Penny Wendling, Nora, Sophia, Rett, Tripp & Liz.

### **All In the Family**

**Birthday** thanks came in from **Violet Peterson**. We share our love and sympathy with the family of **Marge Stropes** who passed away Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. A memorial service is planned for **Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM**. Congratulations and God's blessings on the birth of **Kylie Jean Cloyd**; parents, Todd & Kristine Cloyd; and grandparents, Mike & Gwyn Brechtel.

### **Worship Schedule :**

Our Sunday worship service times are **8 & 10:00 AM**. Children's Church will continue to meet during the 10:00 AM worship service.

### **Bible Studies :**

- \* Tuesday Men's Breakfast Bible Study at 6:45 am at Sunrise Restaurant
- \* Wednesday Morning Bible Study at 10 am, Conference Room
- \* Wednesday Evening Bible Study at 7 PM in either the Conference Room or Fellowship Hall. Currently on break, will possibly resume next year.

**Adult Forums:** Meet between services on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month. A light breakfast will be served. We will break for summer and resume in October.

**To reach Pastor Dan after office hours**, you may call 815-399-5487. Please leave a message and he will respond as soon as possible. Thank you.

**Praying weekly for Alpine's membership** has had a very positive effect on our church! We have had many positive and thankful responses from those we have been praying for. The benefits are so great that we have decided to make this an ongoing part of Alpine's church life. Some comments we've received are "power of prayer - it works!", "just what we needed", and loads of thanks! Even though we are praying for a few families each week, please call Pastor Dan whenever the need arises for extra prayers you may have.

**Together we worship, together we pray, together we love.**

**Here are the members for the next few weeks.**

**Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>** — Mike & Gwyn Brechtel; Megan Brechtel; Harriet Brown-Stark; Chris & Pat Christiansen; David & Laura DeNale; Nick DeNale; and Louise Dorris.

**Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>** — James & Noreen Christiansen; Jon, April, Breonna, Ariel & Penelope Davis; Earnest & Mary DeNale; Richard & Connie Dowling; and Tim Dowling.



**Second Sunday Youth Worship @ Katie's Cup.** All high school youth are encouraged to attend. To stay up-to-date on Second Sunday things, be sure to like Second Sunday Rockford on Facebook and follow @secondsundayrockford on Instagram.

Youth Connect is having their **Annual Advent Party on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5-7 PM** in the gymnasium. We will be holding our Gingerbread House contest so come ready to create. There will be Ga-Ga Ball too! **Confirmation** will be at **4 PM** on this day to accommodate for this event.



**Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>**—Church Council, 7 PM  
**Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>**—Thanksgiving Worship with Academy, 11:15 AM  
**Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>**—Thanksgiving Meal with Academy, 12 PM  
**Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>**—Thanksgiving Worship with Shepherd of the Valley at Alpine, 7 PM  
**Thursday & Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>** - Office Closed  
**Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**—1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent  
**Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**—Youth Connect Advent Party, Gym, 5-7 PM



**What a fantastic celebration of our 75 years of faith & worship!** We have many thanks to give out; Deb Okeson & Barb Shelton for their year long preparations and events, the rest of our anniversary committee for helping pull together everything, Scott Dabson for the transportation, Emerald Wind for the beautiful music and all those behind the scenes (you know who you are).

We, along with the Academy, will have a **Thanksgiving worship service on Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:15 AM.** As in years past, the CPTO will be hard at work hosting a Thanksgiving Feast in Fellowship Hall at 12:00 following the worship service. This has become a very special event between our church and school. Every class contributes to the fabulous food that is offered to all who attend. There is turkey and all the fixings. If you would like to help with the food please contact the school office at 227-8894. Please put this on your calendar.



It is that time of year when Social Ministries begins collecting for the **Holiday Food Baskets.** All items need to be collected by Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. Here is a list of items needed: instant mashed potatoes, Stove Top Stuffing, canned green beans, canned corn, dry gravy packets or canned gravy, canned cranberry sauce, canned fruit, and Jell-O. Additional items that can be donated for the families are: cereal, macaroni & cheese, canned soups, canned ravioli/spaghetti, canned meats—tuna, Ramen Noodles, and other non-perishable non-expired foods. As always, money to purchase the foods can also be donated. Please make a notation for the baskets on your check. We thank you again for your generosity in helping others.

**\*\*\*Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, the next Summit will not be until December 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**From the SCRIP Desk:**

Have you been stocking up on your favorite retailer's SCRIP cards? Christmas is only 7 weeks away. How about buying grocery SCRIP cards for those holiday meals? Thanksgiving is a little over a week away. Have you checked out our limited time small denomination SCRIP cards on the back of your order form? We now have Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Home Depot, Panera Bread, Starbucks, Target and WalMart/Sam's in \$5 and \$10 amounts. These cards are great to say "I am thinking of you", "Thanks for all you do", and "Happy holidays" to those that make your life a little bit easier; newspaper delivery person, garbage collectors, mail person, teachers or neighbors. Don't forget to get stock up on your favorite cards for Black Friday shopping adventures. (Deb Geeser)

**KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP**

Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> we celebrated **All Saints Sunday.** This is the day we acknowledge those who have gone before us in the past year (since the last All Saints). The list of those saints are: **Richard Barron, Bonnie Rohlin, Rune Tengren, Delores Zuroske, Clara Rader, Easton Lykken, Terry Graham, Donald McDonald, Edith Graham, Kjell Lusth, James Stopes, Nancy Weber, Lucille Weddle, Monte Weber, and Jeanne Carter.**

On Wednesday evening, **November 22<sup>nd</sup>,** members of Shepherd of the Valley will join us here at Alpine for a **Service of Thanksgiving at 7:00 PM.** At Thanksgiving we are reminded of the many blessings we have been given. Come and give thanks to God for all that he has bestowed upon us. Invite your neighbors, family and friends to attend as well.

Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> is the **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent.** The Worship & Music Committee has chosen the Advent devotional "Oh Holy Night" by Sarah A. Reinhard. This is a devotional book with activities designed to bring us together as we prepare for the coming of Christ. They will be available December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please take home one book per family to start.



**Alpine Academy**  
of Rockford  
Faith • Family • Future

It's that time of year again! That time of year where our schedules get busy and we find ourselves mixed up in the hustle of the holiday season. At the Academy we see our schedule filled with many opportunities to share together as a school family and to invite the Alpine Congregation to enjoy much of this with us.

Beginning last week when we took time to honor those who so proudly served our country at our annual Veterans Program. It really makes you proud to see our students so proudly sing their Patriotic songs and provide words of thanks to the many Veterans in attendance. Our students did a wonderful job again singing the National Anthem at the IceHogs game as well.

This week on Wednesday we invite you to join us as we have our Annual Wing Eating Contest at Buffalo Wild Wings on State St. Join us at Buffalo Wild Wings anytime from 4:00pm to 11:30pm with contests beginning at 6pm. This has been a fun event where we've had many Alpine Church and Academy Families join together in fellowship and fun.

As we roll into the holidays we will again be hosting the Annual Thanksgiving Feast on Tuesday Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>. We invite you to join us for this Thanksgiving style Feast in Fellowship Hall following the Tuesday Thanksgiving service. A special thanks to Cathy Merwin who will again be coordinating this event. This is a special event that all of our students and families enjoy.

If that's not enough stay tuned as our schedule continues into the Christmas Holiday. It's truly a blessing to have so much to celebrate at Alpine this year. As we continue the 20<sup>th</sup> year with a school at Alpine and the 10<sup>th</sup> as Alpine Academy watch for further events to celebrate the successes of Our School here at Alpine!

In Christ,  
Scott Dabson  
Outreach Director  
Alpine Academy

## Alpine Academy of Rockford

In partnership with Alpine Lutheran Church

Give your child the gift of a quality education  
that enriches the lives, spirits, and minds  
in a safe environment.

**815-227-8894**

Cathy Merwin is asking for volunteers to help out at the **Alpine Academy/Alpine Lutheran Thanksgiving Feast**. She needs servers and/or individuals to cook a turkey a day or two before the feast. Turkey's will be provided for you to cook. If you have any questions or would like to help out in any way, please contact Cathy at (815) 397-5047 or [cathy.merwin@comcast.net](mailto:cathy.merwin@comcast.net). Thank you!

**Calling All C & E Singers!** There is still time to join us for our Christmas Cantata rehearsals. We meet at **7:15 PM on Tuesdays**. All are welcome to join us. There is no need to be a professional musician, just love to sing praises to God in celebration of the birth of our Lord. We will be performing our cantata on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. As in years past, a CD is available to help learn the music.

The November issue of **Living Lutheran** is here! In November's cover story, "A Ministry of Presence", we learn about the role of an ELCA federal chaplain. These chaplains serve in the US military, Veterans Affairs medical centers and correctional institutions. "Chaplains are often privy to intimate and vulnerable moments since their role has them immersed in people's daily lives." Stop by the Care & Concern counter and take home a copy today.



Altar Guild will soon be collecting orders for the **Christmas Poinsettias**. Remember your loved ones who have passed or celebrate an event as we decorate the altar with these flowers. The cost will be \$12 per plant (red only). Order envelopes will be on the kiosk in the narthex. (Laurel McVinnie)

Keep watch for the poster announcing the **Humungous Christmas Bake Sale**. The Alpine Connections Committee is planning a fundraiser in December for Pastor Dan's India trip and we need help with baked good donations. Keep an eye out for the posters for when the sale will be.

**Upcoming Adult Forum:** Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 9:15 AM (between services) Pr. Dan will be sharing about his recent trip to Russia. A light continental breakfast will be served. Come here how God is moving and changing lives on the other side of the world!



We are very happy to see new faces during our Children's Church! We encourage all Alpine children to invite their friends, neighbors, and relatives to come and learn about God's grace and love.

We will be discussing the lessons used in the worship service for that week through discussion and arts and crafts.

**All are welcome to join us.**



Katie's Cup hosts the **Katie's Choice Book Club** every **2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 10 AM**. No reservations are necessary, just bring your copy of the book and join in the discussion. November's book choice is "*Hillbilly Elegy*" by J. D. Vance - a very timely book on the state of working-class America. All are welcome. Come and join us!

With current **HIPAA laws**, the church is not informed by the hospital when you are admitted. Please ask a family member or friend to give the church a call to let us know. Swedish American is the only hospital that makes any calls to churches and that is only when you are admitted by your doctor, not through the emergency room.

**ATTENTION SNOWBIRDS:**

**Please be sure to notify the church office when you will be leaving and coming back from your winter get-aways. The church is charged \$.49 every time a Summit is returned for "Temporarily Away". Please provide a stop & start date so we can get you back on the list when you return. If you have a forwarding address, we can continue to send you your Summit while you are away or you can look for it online.**

**\$2,042 Received to Date from Thrivent Financial Members so far in 2017** (not including the many Action Team cards we have received and used for events). Thrivent has two opportunities for members to contribute funds to organizations, including Alpine Academy and Alpine Lutheran Church. One is through Thrivent members' allocation of Choice dollars. Another is through their new Action Teams program that can contribute toward the expenses of special events. If you are a Thrivent member through any of their product purchases, would you please let the church office know?



**ELCA Federal Credit Union**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

The **ELCA Federal Credit Union** is entering their second year of operation. Throughout the first year as the ELCA's newest financial ministry, they have been helping ELCA members and employees realize significant savings on loans and lines of credit, while offering the full electronic access members expect today. You, as an individual member of the ELCA, are eligible to join our credit union and take advantage of more competitive rates, fewer fees and enhanced services. Credit unions can offer these benefits to members because, as not-for-profit financial cooperatives, we return profits directly to members. In fact, in their first year of operation, they have saved individual members an average of nearly \$1,500 in finance charges over the life of their loans, compared with outside lenders. They are excited about the positive financial impact we're having for our members. To apply for membership—or to learn more about our products and services—visit our website: [elcafcu.org](http://elcafcu.org) or call us toll free at 877-715-1111.



**Music on Thursdays . . . on Seventh!**

A fall music series at Katie's Cup

**December 14:**

Trinadora's Holiday Frolic, Jannie Nelson & Ron Holm

Doors open at 6 pm. Concerts begin at 7 pm. Free Admission.

Musicians will have CDs and merchandise for sale.

Katie's Cup full drink and food menu available.



**Alpine Lutheran Church**  
5001 Forest View Ave. Rockford, IL 61108  
alpinelutheran@comcast.net  
www.alpinelutheran.com

Non-profit org  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Rockford, IL  
Permit #2653

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Worship Times –  
Sun. 8:00  
& 10:00 AM**

---

See what Alpine has to  
offer you on the Web!  
alpinelutheran.com

---

## THOSE WHO SERVE

### Sun., November 19, 2017

**Ushers:** (8:00) Jim Anderson, Bob Fanello, Bryan Garrett, Kathy Mund  
(10:00) Russ Hornbeck, Dick Nelson, Mike Schultz, Brandon Williams  
**Ambass.:** (8:00) Larry & Joni Graham  
(10:00) Craig & Barb Shelton  
**Elements:** (8:00) Les & Carol Johnson  
(10:00) Mark & Christine Stohle  
**Lector:** (8:00) Pam Lojewski (10:00) John Fridh  
**Lay Assist:** (8:00) Roger Bastian, Pam Lojewski  
(10:00) John Fridh, Lucas Turmo  
**Altar Guild:** Laurel McVinnie, Cary Ralston  
**Praise Singers:** Chuck & Lynn Valentine

### Sun., November 26, 2017

**Ushers:** (8:00) Les Johnson, Karl Okeson, Randy Teske, Volunteer  
(10:00) John Linde, Volunteers  
**Ambass.:** (8:00) Bill & Diane Billert  
(10:00) Volunteers  
**Elements:** (8:00) Jack & Carla Phillips  
(10:00) Pam Hodges, Kyle Davison  
**Lector:** (8:00) Carla Phillips (10:00) Jari Sproule  
**Lay Assist:** (8:00) Glen McDonald, Tonya Mund  
(10:00) Maddie Merwin, Elizabeth Ulrich  
**Altar Guild:** Janet Gentry, JoAnn Christiansen  
**Praise Singers:** Chuck & Lynn Valentine