



**Special points of interest:**

Traditional Worship  
 8:00AM  
 Praise Worship  
 10:00 AM

Contact:  
 office@alpinelutheran.com

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Monday, March 5, 2018

Volume 45, Issue 5

**From the Pastor's Desk:**

It is amazing how fast time flies! We just wrapped up Christmas and New Year's celebrations and now Lent is already upon us. For many people, Lent brings to mind many strange associations: ashes on our foreheads, the beginnings of Spring, not eating something you love, being really contemplative and serious. But for some, Lent can be just another church holiday that is confusing, weird, and... ignored. Often people ask me "Pastor Dan, what is Lent really all about?" In Short, Lent is all about preparing ourselves as a community so that Easter can be all the more special as a holiday. It also creates a great opportunity for many people who have gotten lost in the busyness of their lives to reconnect to their faith in Jesus. **My prayer for all of us is that during the weeks leading up to Easter we will all be drawn to God and deepened in our faith and understanding of Jesus, feeling, seeing, touching, and knowing His wonderful presence in our lives.** (Here is a short Q & A to help you better understand Lent).

**Q: What is Lent?**

**A:** Historically, Lent is the forty-day period before Easter, excluding Sundays, it begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday (the day before Easter Sunday).

**Q: Why are Sundays excluded from the reckoning of the forty days?**

**A:** Because Sunday is the day on which Christ arose, making it an inappropriate day to fast and mourn our sins. On Sunday we must celebrate Christ's resurrection for our salvation.

**Q: Why are the forty days called Lent?**

**A:** They are called Lent because that is the Old English word for spring, the season of the year during which they fall. This is something unique to English. In almost all other languages its name is a derivative of the Latin term *Quadragesima*, or "the forty days."

**Q: Why is Lent forty days long?**

**A:** Because forty days is a traditional number of discipline, devotion, and preparation in the Bible. Thus Moses stayed on the Mountain of God forty days (Exodus 24:18 and 34:28), the spies were in the land for forty days (Numbers 13:25), Elijah traveled forty days before he reached the cave where he had his vision (1 Kings 19:8), Nineveh was given forty days to repent (Jonah 3:4), and most importantly, prior to undertaking his ministry, Jesus spent forty days in wilderness praying and fasting (Matthew 4:2).

Since Lent is a period of prayer and fasting, it is fitting for Christians to imitate their Lord with a forty-day period. Christ used a forty-day period of prayer and fasting to prepare for his ministry, which culminated in his death and resurrection. Thus it is fitting for Christians to imitate him with a forty-day period of prayer and fasting to prepare for the celebration of Jesus' ministry's climax - Good Friday (the day of the crucifixion) and Easter Sunday (the day of the resurrection).

**Q: What am I supposed to do for Lent?**

**A:** There is no one right way to prepare ourselves. The important thing is that it is a matter of our hearts. Traditionally we fast or sacrifice something to help us better relate to the sacrifice that Jesus made for us. Sometimes this will mean fasting during a meal (sacrificing the food we eat and instead spending the time praying or reading the Bible). We can also sacrifice something of monetary value (i.e. don't buy that new TV) and instead give the money to the poor or make a donation to God's Church. By sacrificing something that is important or of value to us, we can better appreciate the sacrifice of God's own Son that God made out of love for us. We can also sacrifice by taking something on during Lent as opposed to giving something up.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Attendance 2/14/18 (Ash Wed)	45 + 27	71	Attendance 2/21/18	45
Attendance 2/18/18	67 + 43	110	Attendance 2/25/18	66 + 59

**Required total receipts weekly.....\$8,267.02**

Gen Fund 2/18/18	\$6,115.50	Gen Fund 2/25/17	\$3,373.25
Forward in Faith	\$2,702.00	Forward in Faith	\$733.00
Surplus/Deficit	+\$550.48	Surplus/Deficit	-\$4,160.77

Lenten.....\$568.00

**Surplus/Deficit YTD..... -\$666.52 (1/31/18)**



**Pray for Alpine members:**

Pat Anderson, Liz Bertolotto, Rick Bried, Pat Christiansen, Richard & Nancy Ewert, Doris Fransen, Chuck Gentry, Marybeth Gillette, Rich & Jan Hill, Louise Hemenway, Alyce Krusemeier, Les Johnson, Peggy Lillegaard, Norma Lucas, Marguerite Lusth, 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, Pat Hammers, Daniel Hendrickson, , Judy LeGault, Kathleen Lovins, Michael & Cassandra Mayerhofer, Carol Nelson, Aileen Petersen, Tom Rogers, Bob Schult, Penny Wendling, Nora, Sophia, Rett, Tripp & Liz.

**All In the Family**

Birthday thanks came in from **Jeanne Tengren** and **Lynn Valentine**.

**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 (taking a break until late February/ March)

**Adult Forums:** Meet between services on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month. A light breakfast will be served.

**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.

**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.**

**Mar. 11<sup>th</sup>** — Rhonda Paravala; Bobby & Landon Mounts; Carl Stohle; and Joshua, Christine, Liam and Miles Brady & Peyton Hanson.

**Mar. 18<sup>th</sup>** — Gordon Allen; Charlie & Gail Davidson; Kelly & Hanna Denk; and Bettie Everson.



**Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**—Soup Supper, Christian Ed/Youth and Alpine Connections, 6 PM  
**Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**—Lenten Worship, 7 PM  
**Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>**—**NO** Men's Breakfast  
**Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>**—Congregational Resourcing Event  
**Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>**—Soup Supper, Worship & Music and Altar Guild, 6 PM  
**Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>**—Lenten Worship, 7 PM



**Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Becca's Closet**

March 10—April 28  
 9 AM—noon  
 Good Shepherd on Rockton Ave.  
 Need teen volunteers  
 Call RALM  
 815-962-4279



Alpine will again participate in **RALM's God's Work, Our Hands** food packaging project. This September, the food we help package will go to local food pantries. Food and packaging supplies will come through Outreach Program, an Iowa based organization partnering with SNAP. We will package pasta with Italian tomato basil sauce. The Northern IL Food Bank will arrange the distribution to local pantries. Children's Home and Aid will be joining us with their families. There will be tastings and cooking demonstrations at the pantries. The goal is to package 120,000 meals at only 25 cents per meal. Alpine has pledged \$2000 towards the project. Fundraising for our pledge will begin with the Lenten Soup Suppers. Alpine Connections committee members will be doing additional fundraising throughout the year. A sign-up poster for packaging volunteers will be available closer to September. (DiAnne Beynon)

**From the SCRIP Desk:**

Do you go to Walgreen's or CVS on a regular bases? If so do you know that SCRIP carries these retailers SCRIP cards? Become a regular SCRIP user and see what other retailers SCRIP offers. Did you answer last months SCRIP question? Reminder the question was where do you find SCRIP order forms answer on the SCRIP desk. Reminder: SCRIP will not be placing orders the first 2 weeks of March. As always you may purchase any SCRIP card that is in stock, but be aware there will be a 2 week delay if your order SCRIP cards that are not in stock. (Deb Geeser)

**KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP**

**There is still time to register:** The 2018 Congregational Resourcing Event is this **Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>** at Kishwaukee Community College in Malta, IL. Many workshops will be offered including Administration, Education, Stewardship, Evangelism, Social Justice and many others. The event is open to all congregation members. Take advantage of this learning event and discover new ways to enhance our congregation. Please see Pastor Dan or call the church office if interested.



**Adult Forum:** Pastor Dan is hard at work organizing his stories and photos from his trip to India, renewing our covenant with our companion church and school. He will present an Adult Forum Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup> between services. He is hoping to include a taste of Indian foods as part of the light breakfast. Mark your calendars for this special presentation. Please note it is the second Sunday due to Easter.

**Men's Breakfast** will not meet in March due to the Congregational Resourcing Event being held on the same day and time. Please watch for an notice regarding next month's breakfast.

The Altar Guild has started taking orders for the **2018 Easter Glory Garden**. Add beauty to our Easter celebration while you remember or celebrate an important person or event in you life. The cost is \$12 per plant. We will have traditional lilies & red and yellow tulips. Order envelopes are on the kiosk in the narthex. Orders will be taken through Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup>.

This month's **Living Lutheran** is here and ready for you to take home and share with others. In honor of March being Women's History month, the lead article, "Called and chosen", shares portions of the stories of seven women of color in the ELCA and their triumphs and struggles to gain support in their leadership roles. These excerpts are all part of the ELCA rostered women of color project "God's faithfulness on the journey". All 42 stories can be found at [elca.org/rwoc](http://elca.org/rwoc).



The youth are planning their **breakfast for Easter** and would like you help. As in years past, we would like donations of juice and pastries to serve with the breakfast. Their new request is for a Thrivent member to apply for a **Thrivent Action Team** grant to use to purchase the food and supplies for the breakfast. This money acts as seed money in their effort to raise funds for the Youth Convention that the youth will attend this year in place of the work camp. Please contact John Linde if you are able to apply for the funds.



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

We have had warm weather this week. Students have started going back outside for recess. Is spring really here? I hope so.

In the past two weeks our CPTO has coordinated a family reading night in our gymnasium and a book fair at Barnes & Noble. During the reading night, teachers read stories to the students and books were given away. Baskets full of books were raffled. A bake sale was held that added sugary treats to the reading festival. This event was followed on Sunday with a fund raising book fair at Barnes and Noble. Alpine Academy sponsored a table from 10-6. Teachers and parents manned the table. We had face painting, book readings, and craft projects for the students in the store. The next CPTO event is a Chucky Cheese day on March 26. Hopefully, you can order a pizza that day and support the Academy

This past Tuesday the Empower Illinois Scholarship Enrollment program was a success. Many thousands of parents across the state were able to apply for these scholarships to private schools. The next major task is finding the financial support. We need individuals and corporations to donate to the program. If you donate, you will receive a state tax credit that is 75% of what you have donated. If you are interested in becoming a donor, please contact Scott Dabson at Alpine Academy-815-227-8894. He can walk you through the process.

Easter is approaching. The Alpine Academy Easter program will be March 28 at 6 p.m. I hope you will round out the Holy Week activities and attend the school program.

We thank God for His love and we thank you for your support. Please help the Academy by donating monies in the purple envelopes in the pews.

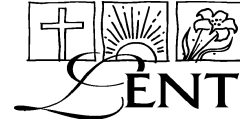
In Christ,  
Principal Bob McVinnie

## 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**



Our daily devotional for this Lenten season is entitled "**Finding Peace in Lent**" by James E. Adams. These reflections are based on the Saint Francis Peace Prayer. We hope this devotional will help "put your prayer into action" and bring us closer to the peace of Christ. They are available in the Memorial Lounge.

**Lenten Worship:** Join us for worship every Wednesday evening during Lent at 7 PM. We will be weaving in the theme of **Peace** through out our services.

**Soup's on!** Come and enjoy a bowl of soup, some bread, and of course, a dessert every Wednesday prior to the worship service. Each week, a different committee, or set of committees, heads up the supper, preparing soups, breads and desserts but we need your help. A sign-up poster is in the narthex to volunteer to bring something or to help with set-up or clean-up. This time before our Lenten worship is a great time of fellowship. Invite your friends and neighbors to come and stay for the worship service.

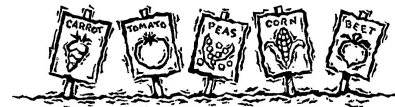
**Cantata Rehearsals have begun!** We are planning a **Good Friday Cantata** this year and rehearsals are on **Tuesdays at 7:15 PM**. All are welcome and encouraged to join us. (Richard Dowling)

The Social Ministries committee will be hosting a worship service and serving a meal at the **Rockford Rescue Mission on Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**, at 5:30 PM. We will need sack lunches to serve to all of the patrons. A sign-up sheet will be available closer to Palm Sunday. All are welcome to come help serve and participate in the worship. (John Linde)

**Please prayerfully consider volunteering for a ministry at Alpine.** It is becoming more and more difficult to complete our "Those Who Serve" schedule especially during our "snow-bird" months. If you are interested in the any of the areas of serving, please contact the church office and we will direct you to the person who heads up each volunteer position. (Lynn Valentine)

## Children's Church

Once again, we look to the larger church and the need around the world. Our ELCA World Hunger project this year is to buy a vegetable garden (tools, education, drought resistant seeds, etc.) . The children will be collecting coins in banks from January through May. Banks are available in the Memorial Lounge for other members who would like to contribute to this project.





Katie's Cup hosts the **Katie's Choice Book Club** every **2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 10 AM**. March's book selection is **"The Lost City of the Monkey God: A True Story"** by Douglas Preston. A five-hundred-year-old legend. An ancient curse. A stunning medical mystery. And a pioneering journey into the unknown heart of the world's densest jungle. No reservations are necessary, just bring your copy of the book and join in the discussion



**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.

**Keep Alpine Updated:** With current HIPAA laws, **the church is not informed when you are hospitalized**. Please have a friend or family member notify the church directly. OSF St. Anthony's and Rockford Memorial does not call at all, Swedish American only calls when you are admitted to the hospital through your physician, not the ER. We want to keep in contact with you especially when you are in need of support.

**Would you like to receive your Summit via email?** We currently are sending out email reminders to several members of the congregation when a new Summit is posted on our website. If you are currently receiving a paper copy in the mail and would like to switch to our email version, please contact the office. All we need is a current email address. (Lynn Valentine)

**Katie's Cup Conversation:** Join us Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 11AM to 12:30 PM, for a Katie's Cup Conversation on "The New Economics of Zero Poverty, Zero Unemployment and Zero Net Carbon Emissions" hosted by Brad Roos and Denver Bittner. Lunches will be available before, during and after the conversation.



Illinois enacted the Invest In Kids Scholarship Tax Credit Program in 2017. This program offers a 75 percent income tax credit to individuals and businesses that contribute to qualified Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGOs). The SGOs then provide scholarships for students whose families meet the income requirements to attend qualified, non-public schools in Illinois such as Alpine Academy and other private schools. The Greater Rockford Area Lutheran Schools have chosen to work with SGO Empower Illinois. Questions, please contact Scott Dabson, 815-494-3002, or visit <http://www.revenue.state.il.us/InvestInKids/>



**Alpine Lutheran Church**  
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alpinelutheran@comcast.net  
www.alpinelutheran.com

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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

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## THOSE WHO SERVE

**Sun., March 11, 2018**

**Ushers:** (8:00) Chuck Gentry, Glen McDonald, Volunteers  
(10:00) Jack Lucas, Marge Rakoczy, Volunteers  
**Ambass.:** (8:00) Al & Deb Geeser  
(10:00) Gwyn Brechtel, Diana Sundeen  
**Elements:** (8:00) Darold & Sharon Walker  
(10:00) Gwyn Brechtel, Diana Sundeen  
**Lector:** (8:00) Pam Lowjewski (10:00) Allen Neumann  
**Lay Assist:** (8:00) Roger Bastian, Pam Lowjewski  
(10:00) Bea Lundgren, Lucas Turmo  
**Altar Guild:** Kathy Mund, Sahrah Neumann  
**Praise Singers:** Ted Croisant, Bob McVinnie

**Sun., March 18, 2018**

**Ushers:** (8:00) Jim Anderson, Bob Fanello, Bryan Garrett, Kathy Mund  
(10:00) Russ Hornbeck, Dick Nelson, Mike Schultz, Brandon Williams  
**Ambass.:** (8:00) Jack & Carla Phillips  
(10:00) DiAnne Beynon, Louise Dorris  
**Elements:** (8:00) Matt & Deb Hier  
(10:00) DiAnne Beynon, Volunteer  
**Lector:** (8:00) Craig Shelton (10:00) Dick Nelson  
**Lay Assist:** (8:00) Deb Okeson, Craig Shelton  
(10:00) Maddie Mersin, Liz Ulrich  
**Altar Guild:** Laurel McVinnie, Cary Ralston  
**Praise Singers:** Chuck & Lynn Valentine