



Special points of interest:



Contact:
 office@alpinelutheran.com
 815-399-5013

**Next Summit - January
 7, 2019**

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From Pastor Desk:

Monday, December 17, 2018

Volume 45, Issue 24



May this eternal truth be always on our hearts
 That the God who breathed this world into being
 Placed stars into the heavens
 And designed a butterfly's wing
 Is the God who entrusted his life
 to the care of ordinary people
 became vulnerable that we might know
 how strong is the power of Love
 A mystery so deep it is impossible to grasp
 A mystery so beautiful it is impossible to ignore

May God grant you his peace this Christmas
 and always

Merry Christmas from the Staff at A lpine!



**“Glory
 to God
 in the highest,
 and on earth
 peace among
 those with whom
 he is pleased!”**
 Luke 2:14, ESV

Daniel Weyand
Lynn Valentine
Tom Bohren
Bob & Laurel McSweeney
Richard Weyand

BY THE NUMBERS

Attendance 12/2/18 66 + 48 114 Attendance 12/9/18 64 + 71 135

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

Gen Fund 12/2/18	\$11,580.50	Gen Fund 12/9/18	\$3,980.50
Forward in Faith	\$4,442.00	Forward in Faith	\$1,057.00
Surplus/Deficit	+\$7,755.48	Surplus/Deficit	-\$3,229.52

Festival.....\$75.00 53/54.....\$275.00 Unexpected Blessings.....\$52.00

Surplus/Deficit YTD..... -\$20,090.86 (11/30/18)



Pray for Alpine members:

Pat Anderson, Rick Bried, Pat Christiansen, Kathy Cordonnier, Ernest & Mary DeNale, Richard & Nancy Ewert, Doris Fransen, Marybeth Gillette, Rich & Jan Hill, Alyce Krusemeier, Peggy Lillegaard, Jack & Norma Lucas, Marguerite Lusth, Laurel McVinnie, Marian Olson, Gerry Perala, Donna Steele and Darold Walker.

Pray for our friends and family of Alpine:

Sally Atkinson, Kim Braun, Linda Carter, Linda Conness, Jerome Gill, Elena Hember, Daniel Hendrickson, Geri Hughe, Gwen Johnson, Kathleen Lovins, Linda & Lorna Lurvey, Peggy Moorhouse, Sharon Mund, Carol Nelsen, Laura Olson, Aileen Petersen, Tom Rogers, Bob Schult, Jeremy Sturges, Don Tennant, and Penny Wendling.

All In the Family

Jerry & Mari Hanson wish to thank everyone for the beautiful flowers they received. **Diane Billert** sent in her thanks for all of the birthday wishes she received making her 80th birthday so special. We join in celebration for the baptism of **Shaun Patrick Elder** who was baptized into God's family. His parents are Nick & Katie (Whaples) Elder. Our love and sympathy goes out to **Lori (Davison) Abbot** whose husband, Steve died December 10th.



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, check board for location

Adult Forums: Meet between services on the 1st Sunday of every month, unless announced otherwise. 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.

December 23rd — Rudy, Lindsay, Joaquin, & Adrianne Arellano; Todd, Kristine, Kinsley, & Kylie Cloyd; Joan Greeny, Jacob Greeny; Doris Fransen; and Karen Conti.

December 30th — Margo Grigalonas; Sue Peterson; Mike & Loretta Schultz; Andrea Tack, Alex & Sami Todd; and Jim & Linda Whale.



Wednesday, December 19th—Alpine Academy Christmas Program, Gym, 6:00 PM

Saturday, December 22nd—Cantata rehearsal, 9 AM

Sunday, December 23rd—4th Sunday of Advent, Christmas Cantata "Behold, A Savior!" @ 10 AM Worship

Monday, December 24th—Christmas Eve Worship, 3 & 10 PM
(cont. next column)

Sunday, December 30th—1st Sunday of Christmas, worship services 8 & 10 AM

Sunday, January 6th—Epiphany & Family Blessings Worship, 8 & 10 AM



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.



Candlelight Christmas Eve services are at **3 & 10 PM**. We are hoping this will make it easier for families with younger children or those who don't drive at night to be able to attend this very special worship. We will have special Christmas music 10 minutes prior to the service. Come early and enjoy the music while you prepare for worship. The church office will be closing early on both Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, and will be closed Christmas Day, the day after Christmas, and New Year's Day.

Christmas Eve Assistants & Ushers needed: We need volunteers to usher at both worship services on Christmas Eve, 3 & 10 PM. Please contact the office if you can serve.

From the SCRIP Desk:

Sunday the 23rd the SCRIP desk will be open for last minute cards, but the cards in the SCRIP box will be the only ones we will be able to sell no orders will go out that week. (Deb Geeser)

KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP

You are invited to attend the **Alpine Academy Christmas Program** on Wednesday, December 19th, at 6:15 PM in the gym. Come and show your support to our Academy students as they prepare for this blessed season.

Let's fill the Mitten Tree! The Altar Guild has set up a tree in the entryway by the front door, in the vestibule. Please bring in mittens, hats and scarves, hand made or purchased, and place them on the tree. All items will be collected throughout the month and then donated to the Salvation Army to warm those less fortunate than ourselves. So many people in the Rockford area need something warm to wear for the winter. Share the warmth of the season with others! (Laurel McVinnie)

Social Ministries continues collecting for the **Holiday Food Baskets**. All items need to be collected by Thursday, December 20th. A list of items needed is on the barrel. 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. (Social Ministry)

***This will be the last Summit of 2018. The next Summit will be received on Monday, January 7th, 2019. We wish you a very blessed New Year!**



Gifts for the Staff

The **Church Council of Alpine Lutheran** has started a collection for a 2018 Christmas bonus for our full-time staff; Pastor Dan, Lynn Valentine, Tim Babcock, and Richard Dowling. If you would like to contribute, all donations can be placed in the offering marked **Staff Christmas** or dropped off at the office. We will be collecting through the end of January. We thank them for all they do for Alpine all year long! (Matt Hier)

The December issue of "**Living Lutheran**" is here! This month's cover story is entitled "Uplifting Christmas Gifts". Several readers have submitted personal stories depicting the true meaning of Christmas to them. Pick up your copy from the Care & Concern counter while supplies last.



It's a Christmas Card Blizzard! The Alpine Connections committee has made a list of Shut-ins and others who might enjoy Christmas greetings from their friends at Alpine. Need a few more cards to send? There are some available on the Care & Concern counter. If you have some extra cards for others to use, just place them in the box. (DiAnne Beynon)

Special Coffee Hour on Sunday, December 30th

Coffee will be served between worship services as usual. We welcome you to bring any leftover Christmas treats to share with the congregation.

We are still collecting any **2019 Pledge cards** if you have not turned in yours yet.. Make sure to put your name and envelope number on the card. As we gather these financial pledges we are able to begin the process of planning finances for 2019. Please prayerfully consider your giving to Alpine. We thank you for your support of Alpine both financially and spiritually. (Finance & Stewardship Committee)



Alpine Academy
of Rockford
Faith • Family • Future

Hope is born. We've been waiting for a year. Christmas is near. Christ's birth brings us the possibility, that His message of forgiveness and kindness will be heard. As we celebrate His birth, let us listen to His message. He was born for a reason-to bring hope to the world, from His humble birth to His sacrificial death, He taught faith, patience, kindness, charity, and forgiveness. Let us pray that with this Christmas season people will take His teachings to heart and live His message.

As a Christian school we cannot hide from His message. We can not and should not hide from teaching the children how to help one another, how to forgive one another, how to act on Jesus' teachings. When we misbehave, we seek forgiveness. We must forgive. We must teach that kindness overcomes anger, that helping others is better than taking from others. We must teach that Faith in God and the teachings of Christ are as important as math and science. If just one generation is not taught Faith, then the teachings of Christ are lost for generations.

So, let us rejoice that parents and grandparents are sending their children to Alpine Academy to learn their math, reading, and science, but most importantly to learn their Faith.

Let us all have a Merry Christmas.
Bob McVinnie, Principal



Join us on Sunday for Children's Church during the 10 AM worship. We will be learning about the lessons from the worship service and how we can share God's Word with others. On 12/23 & 12/30, we will not be meeting for Children's Church. Classes will resume 1/6.



The **Alpine Lutheran C & E Choir** invites you **Sunday, December 23rd**, to our Christmas Cantata. "Behold, A Savior", by Jay Rouse and Rose Aspinall. This year, as we have done in past years, our C & E Choir will perform their special presentation at the **10 AM worship service**. Come and enjoy the music as we prepare for the coming of our Lord and Savior. Please invite your friends, family and neighbors to this wonderful musical celebration.

(We will still have an 8 AM worship service that day)

On **Sunday, December 30th**, we will hold both worship services at 8 & 10 AM with a "Left-over Christmas Cookie" coffee hour between services. **Sunday, January 6th**, we will have our **Family Blessings worship service** as well as a celebration of Epiphany.

Alpine would like to welcome **Laurel McVinnie** as our new **volunteer coordinator**. She will be helping Pastor Dan and Lynn in the office when different volunteer opportunities arise.

The **Altar Guild** would like to express a **special thank you** to some very helpful Christmas elves. Glen McDonald, Al, Mathew, & Lexi Neumann, and John Ralston all chipped in during the Christmas decorating the first Saturday of the month. We appreciate the extra help. (Laurel McVinnie)

Please prayerfully consider volunteering for a ministry at Alpine. A new "**Those Who Serve**" schedule is currently being made. If you need any changes to where you serve, please contact the office ASAP. As in the past, if your email is on file, you will receive the new schedule via email to save on paper and postage costs. All printed copies will be located on the counter in the narthex where we sign cards. (Lynn Valentine)

Carpenter's Place's need for **warm winter boots** is critical, and we are asking for your help. The shelves are bare for men's boots sizes 8-11. We also have great need for women's boots, sizes 6-9. Donations of boots can be dropped off in-person at Carpenter's Place between 8:00am and 4:30pm, Monday through Friday. Monetary donations are always accepted as well.

Committee Chairpersons: Can you believe that we are nearing a new year? The 2019 Annual Meeting is Sunday, February 3rd, and it will be here before we know it. We need all annual reports to be sent to the office by no later than **January 17th**. It would be very helpful if all reports could be in electronic form and in Word format. This makes it easier for me to do any manipulation for printing. If you are unable to submit your report this way. I will understand. Thank you for your quick response in this matter. (Lynn Valentine)



-Katie's Choice Book Club meets every 2nd Thursday of the month at 10 AM. Each month a new book is chosen to discuss. January's book is "Beartown" by Fredrik Backman. "While the story is dark at times love, sacrifice, and the bonds of friendship and family shine through, ultimately offering hope and even redemption." - Publisher's Weekly Bring your copy and join the discussion.

-Katie's Cup Bunco: Join us every 3rd Thursday of the month at Katie's Cup for a session of Bunco and great fellowship. We meet from 1:30—3 PM.

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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.

Laundry Love—This program, part of **RALM**, provides free laundry services to the needy every 3rd Wednesday of the month at Charles Street Laundromat. The program exists to help alleviate the strain that poor health and hygiene places on the most venerable members of our community. Co-Coordinator are Bob Black & Dave Musser.

Several of our congregation members no longer are able to drive to attend worship services and church events. We want to create a list of members who are willing to pick someone up and bring them to worship. Please call the office if you are able to assist in this area.

Are you planning on moving? Drop a note to the church office so you do not miss any mailings. The church has to pay for each newsletter that is returned for a wrong address.

Do we have your family displayed on our Family Wall? Our Family Wall is a great way to get acquainted with families you may not see every week especially if you attend the opposite worship service. We would like all families at Alpine to participate. Please submit a family photo and a short "bio". There are forms available in the pocket on the wall. If you would like

Songs & Suds Christmas Music Sing-along Tuesday, December 18 6:30 - 8 pm

Sing and enjoy Christmas songs and celebrate the Advent Season!

Feel free to enjoy the suds shared!

Free event with donations to benefit Katie's Cup.

MUSICIANS: Denver Bitner, Jane McChesney,
Marti Bein, Jay Quinn, Scott Stolberg,
Michael Thomas & others!

Questions: contact Michael Thomas at methomas1966@gmail.com
or 815-964-4609

*Katie's Cup Christmas CD
available for sale!!*



502 Seventh Street, Rockford
Corner of Seventh Street & Fourth Avenue



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Non-profit org
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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., December 23, 2018

Ushers: (8:00) Les Johnson, Karl Okeson,
 Randy Teske, Volunteer
 (10:00) John Linde Volunteers
Ambass.: (8:00) Al & Deb Geeser
 (10:00) DiAnne Beynon, Louise Dorris
Elements: (8:00) Al & Deb Geeser
 (10:00) DiAnne Beynon, Pam Hodges
Lector: (8:00) Al Garrett
Lay Assist: (8:00) Roger Bastian, Al Garrett
 (10:00) Maddie Merwin, Volunteer
Altar Guild: Janet Gentry, JoAnn Christiansen
Praise Singers: Chuck & Lynn Valentine

Sun., December 30, 2018

Ushers: (8:00) Carol Johnson, Tonya Mund, Jack
 Phillips, Volunteer
 (10:00) Volunteers
Ambass.: (8:00) Larry & Joni Graham
 (10:00) Mari Hanson, Diana Sundeen
Elements: (8:00) David & Laura DeNale
 (10:00) Mari Hanson, Diana Sundeen
Lector: (8:00) Pam Lojewski (10:00) Craig
 Shelton
Lay Assist: (8:00) Pam Lojewski, Glen
 McDonald
 (10:00) Nancy Matthews, Craig Shelton
Altar Guild: Joan Greeny, Volunteer
Praise Singers: Ted Croisant, Jaime Doubek