



Special points of interest:



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

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Monday, January 7, 2019

Volume 46, Issue 1

From Pastor Desk:

The Holiday season is wrapping up. The decorations are coming down. The frenetic pace (maybe) is lifted. Now we get to settle in for the long winter. As we do, let us take one more moment to look back at what God has been telling us as a congregation. During Advent and Christmas, we examined the idea of Peace On Earth. A phrase that we hear over and over during the holidays. But a concept that is often elusive to us. Here are some of the truths that we examined that might help us to receive and live with this very important blessing of peace in our lives.

- Peace = Wholeness or Completeness. This is in contrast to how the world defines peace as the absence of conflict or dissonance.
- Bad stuff happening does not mean that God is failing (or that peace is not happening).
- When winter arrives and the world feels desolate... look for signs from God that restore hope. Finding these signs helps us to reorient ourselves and our lives back to God.
- We keep waiting for God to change our lives... maybe God wants to change our hearts.
- We make room in our hearts for God by making room in our lives to love people.
- Peace comes when we stop listening to how the world describes us and accept the truth of scripture concerning how God describes us.
- Allow yourself to be amazed by the story of Jesus.
- Don't look for God in buildings, events, or circumstances. Look for God in people and in relationships.
- Glorifying God is not just the proper response to the Christmas miracle – it is the process that brings change/peace/joy/love/hope into our lives.
- As we pour out our bitterness, God pours in peace. Bitterness it seems is the antithesis to peace. It must be removed (by us or by God) if peace is to reign in our lives.

Quote of the week

"So God throws open the door of this world—and enters as a baby. As the most vulnerable imaginable. Because He wants unimaginable intimacy with you. What religion ever had a god that wanted such intimacy with us that He came with such vulnerability to us? What God ever came so tender we could touch Him? So fragile that we could break Him? So vulnerable that His bare, beating heart could be hurt? Only the One who loves you to death." -Ann Voskamp

BY THE NUMBERS

Rejoicing Spirits 12/13/18 59

Attendance 12/16/18	62 + 45	107	Attendance 12/23/18	40 + 120	160
Attendance 12/24/18	87 + 48	135	Attendance 12/30/18	57 + 47	104

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

Gen Fund 12/16/18	\$6,259.50	Gen Fund 12/23/18	\$5,848.50	Gen Fund 12/30/18	\$2,297.50
Forward in Faith	\$1,899.00	Forward in Faith	\$956.00	Forward in Faith	\$390.00
Surplus/Deficit	-\$108.52	Surplus/Deficit	-\$1,432.52	Surplus/Deficit	-\$5,580.52

Festival.....\$1,235.00	53/54.....\$1,759.50	Unexpected Blessings.....\$7,915.00
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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, Melissa (Bukowski) Stucky & Family 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, Shirley Kagel, 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

Our love and sympathy goes out to Jan Galster & the family of **Alyce Krusemeier**. Alyce died Sunday, December 30th. **Darold & Sharon Walker** send their thanks for the altar flowers they have received. **Lori Abbott, Pam & Terry Hodges** send their heartfelt thanks for Pastor Dan's visit, and for the love and support shown to their family during the difficult time of Steve's illness and passing. Thanks to all who helped with his funeral. It was truly appreciated.



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.

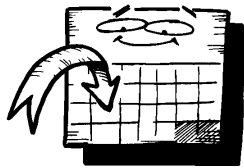
Praying weekly for Alpine's membership has had a very positive effect on our church! We have had many positive and thankful responses from those we have been praying for. The benefits are so great that we have decided to make this an ongoing part of Alpine's church life. Some comments we've received 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.

January 13th—Michael Valentine, Alyssa Kreighbaum & Chase Valentine; Emily Christiansen; Diane Griffey; and David & Marianne Hoel.

January 20th—Larry Johnson; Marjorie Pearson; and Ralph & Becky Toro.



Thursday, January 10th—Rejoicing Spirits Worship, 6 PM
Sunday, January 13th—Baptism of Our Lord Sunday
Sunday, January 20th—Special Adult Forum with Audiologist, 9:15 AM
Thursday, January 17th—Annual Report Deadline
Thursday, January 17th—Church Council, 7 PM

Official Notice: The congregation of Alpine Lutheran Church is hereby convened for its annual meeting to take place on Sunday, February 3, 2019 at 11:30 AM. The meeting will include reports and election of members to the church council.



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.

Sunday, February 3rd is our Annual Meeting Sunday. There will only **ONE worship service at 10:00 AM.** The service will be followed by the meeting in Fellowship Hall at 11:30 AM. At the meeting, we will be having elections for the 2018 Church Council as well as going over the financial information from 2017 and the 2018 budget.

Join us for lunch prior to the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 3rd. The Youth are serving a light lunch for a free will offering that will go to costs and youth work camp.

From the SCRIP Desk:

Thanks you to everyone that placed a SCRIP order this holiday season. We had a great end of the year rush and hopefully that has pushed us to our SCRIP goal which was to donate to the church under unexpected blessings of a \$1000.00. The total count will not be available until after the first of the year so keep watching your Summit to see the final donation amount. As the New Year approaches don't forget to continue using SCRIP for all your shopping needs. Happy New Year! (Deb Geeser)

KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP



The **Church Council of Alpine Lutheran** is collecting 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)

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)

Altar Guild has put up the **2019 Flower and Eternal Candle** dedication charts. Remember your loved ones or celebrate and honor a person in your life or special occasion. The flower sponsorship is \$20 a week; the eternal candle sponsorship is \$10 per month. All money collected help us defer the cost for these bills. (Laurel McVinnie)

2018 Giving Statements will be printed and available to pick up from the counter in the coat room by **Sunday, January 13th**. If you find any discrepancies please contact Lynn in the office. She will be glad to make any corrections. The statements will remain on the counter through the Annual Meeting and then any remaining will be mailed out. If you would prefer, they can be emailed out. Please let Lynn know.

A new **"Those Who Serve"** schedule has been assembled and is available to be picked up. As in the past, if your email is on file, you were sent the new schedule via email to save on paper and postage costs. All printed copies will be located on the Care & Concern counter in the narthex. Please stop and pick up your copy. (Lynn Valentine)

A special thank you to the **Tim & JoAnn Christiansen Family** for the beautiful Christmas Tree in our sanctuary. They were also kind enough to do all of the decorating of the tree and arranged the Poinsettia display. All of their hard work made our sanctuary especially beautiful for the season. (Altar Guild)

The January issue of **"Living Lutheran"** is here! In this month's cover story, "I'm a Lutheran", a Minnesota choir director, pianist and organist discusses his journey from Liberia and becoming a Lutheran. Please pick up a copy to take with you then share it with a friend. Copies can be found on the Care & Concern counter.

Adult Forum: On **Sunday, January 20th**, we will be holding a special Adult Forum. Dr. Leigh Ann Tackaberry, audiologist, will join us and discuss how we may improve our sound for those of our congregation who have some hearing loss. She will note what hearing aids people have and what equipment we may need to better our audio during our worship services. She works with 6 different manufacturers and has volunteered her services to other churches in our area.



We begin 2019 with a prayer to God for Alpine.

We thank you God for the blessings you have bestowed on Alpine Academy and on Alpine Lutheran Church. We thank you for giving us Your Son Jesus. We ask that you enter our hearts and minds as we celebrate His life, from Birth to Resurrection.

As this new year begins, we ask for your guidance as we teach the children and one another about Jesus- his love, his patience, his forgiveness. We ask for your forgiveness and your help as we forgive one another for disagreements, for hurt feelings, and for misunderstandings. We know that we are part of your great plan for this earth and that we must love each other. Help us to teach this to our children.

We ask for your patience as we walk through each day. Take away that anger that arises when someone puts them self first and us second. Please comfort us and soften our hearts so we can see the other as a child of God, just as worthy of God's love as we think we are.

Help us to be kind to all of Your children and to treat each as our own child. When we do this the children will learn that your love is more than words. Help us to teach them to treat each other with that same kindness and they then will see love grow.

We ask that you continue to Bless Alpine Academy and Alpine Lutheran Church as we tiptoe into this new year. We thank you for the love you have given us and the quiet guidance you provide.

With God's Love,
Principal Bob McVinnie



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.



The **Alpine Lutheran C & E Choir** thanks everyone for attending their cantata performance on Sunday, December 23rd. If you were unable to attend, a video has been posted to the front page of our website at www.alpinelutheran.com. We thank all of our talented members who worked so hard to provide the congregation with such a beautiful musical experience. Many thanks to Richard Dowling and all that he does for the music here at Alpine.

The next **Rejoicing Spirits Worship** is **Thursday, January 10th, 6:00 PM** All are welcome at this no-shush worship that enriches the lives of all people, especially those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Rejoicing Spirits includes music and joyous singing, brief, meaningful messages and the chance to connect with others. Contact: Pastor Dan for more info on how you can help out (pastor@alpinelutheran.com).

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)

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.

Calling all those who are musically inclined! Both of our choirs, the Chancel Choir and the Hand Bell Choir are in need of additional members. We especially need people during the winter months when a portion of our choirs "fly south." Please see Richard Dowling or just come to our rehearsals. Both choirs meet on Tuesday evenings, Hand Bell Choir meets at 6 PM and Chancel Choir meets at 7:15 PM. (Richard Dowling)

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our **Mitten Tree**. The Altar Guild was able to donate 11 scarves, 15 pairs of gloves or mittens and 34 hats for those who may not have enough to keep warm this winter. We appreciate your continued support of this Christmas tradition here at Alpine.

Pastor Dan will be gone at a continuing studies conference from January 15th to January 27th. There will not be any Bible studies while he is gone. If you have any pastoral needs, please call the church office, 815-399-5013, and leave a message. We will return your call as soon as possible.



-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 to update your photo or information, we would love to do that as well. Just resubmit your info and we will update it. (Dave DeNale)

A Katie's Cup Conversation:

**Tuesday, January 8
11 am - 12:30 pm**

The Opiod Crisis



Presenters:
Kristin Crowley
Nicole Stein
WREX



A conversation with Kristin Crowley and Nicole Stein from WREX television relating their recent findings from an in depth report on the opioid crisis in Northern Illinois.

(A second conversation will be held on Tuesday, February 12, with Pastor Dan Herman, Hope over Addiction)



Lunches available for purchase prior to, during, and after the Conversation.
815.986.0628
katicescupcoffee@gmail.com



Presents: Second Thursday Concerts

Music on Thursdays . . . on Seventh!



Last Acre is the project of Mark and Molly Mathewson, a father and daughter from Illinois. The duo has performed across the Midwest, opening for acts such as Robbie Fulks, Tim Grimm, and Antje Duvekot. Their sound is rooted in traditional Appalachian folk music, with one foot in bluegrass and the other in the prairie songwriting sensibilities of Greg Brown and John Prine. With blood-kin harmonies and dry, tongue-in-cheek repartee, the two have been called "as much of an emotional feeling as a musical moment."

Last Acre
Thursday, January 10

Doors open at 6 pm. Concert begins at 7 pm. Free Admission.

CDs and merchandise offered for sale. Katie's Cup full drink and food menu available.
502 7th Street 815.986.0628 katicescupcoffee@gmail.com www.katicescup.com Friend us on Facebook!


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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., January 14, 2019

Ushers: (8:00) Chuck Gentry, Glen McDonald, Volunteers
(10:00) Marge Rakoczy, Volunteers
Ambass.: (8:00) Bettie Everson, Louise Hemenway
(10:00) John Linde, David Linde
Elements: (8:00) Al & Deb Geeser
(10:00) Nancy Lorenzen, Bea Lundgren
Lector: (8:00) Bob Fanello (10:00) Bob McVinnie
Lay Assist: (8:00) Bob & Lori Fanello
(10:00) Zada Doubek, Rashad Hyder
Altar Guild: Kathy Mund, Sarah Neumann
Praise Singers: Ted Croisant, Jaime Doubek, Bob McVinnie

Sun., January 21, 2019

Ushers: (8:00) Jim Anderson, Bob Fanello, Bryan Garrett, Kathy Mund
(10:00) Russ Hornbeck, Dick Nelson, Mike Schultz, Brandon Williams
Ambass.: (8:00) Jan Anderson, Carole Rogers
(10:00) DiAnne Beynon, Louise Dorris
Elements: (8:00) Deb Geeser, Laura DeNale
(10:00) Mark & Christine Stohle
Lector: (8:00) Randy Teske (10:00) Jari Sproule
Lay Assist: (8:00) Tonya Mund, David DeNale
(10:00) Maddie Merwin, Volunteer
Altar Guild: Laurel McVinnie, Cary Ralston
Praise Singers: Chuck & Lynn Valentine