



#### Special points of interest:

Worship Sunday

8:00 AM

10:00 AM

Rejoicing Spirits

6:00 PM (2nd Thursday)

Contact:

office@alpinelutheran.com

815-399-5013

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## From Pastor Desk:

Monday, March 18, 2019

Volume 46, Issue 6

As Lent is now upon us, I would like to share with you one of my favorite Lenten quotes:

*"In many cultures there is an ancient custom of giving a tenth of each year's income to some holy use. For Christians, to observe the forty days of Lent is to do the same thing with roughly a tenth of each year's days. After being baptized by John in the River Jordan, Jesus went off alone into the wilderness where he spent forty days asking himself the question of what it meant to be Jesus. **During Lent, Christians are supposed to ask one way or another what it means to be themselves...to answer questions like these is to begin to hear something not only of who you are but of both what you are becoming and what you are failing to become. It can be a pretty depressing business all in all, but if sackcloth and ashes are at the start of it, something like Easter may be at the end.**" -- Frederick Buechner, *Whistling In the Dark**

This quote helps me both to understand the significance of Lent and to guide me in establishing the right frame of mind. It touches on the importance of sacrifice that Lent teaches us but also points us to the tremendous award that awaits - Easter. Sometimes people feel that Lent is just an inconvenient bump in their schedule, something that needs to be "waded through" so we can get on with our lives and not make God too unhappy with us. The reality is that Lent provides us with an opportunity to step out of our normal way of living, to try and hold back the negative pressures of our pervasive culture, to examine our present lives and plot a course towards God, not away from God. Yes observing Lent involves sacrifice. But as we observe Lent, Easter and all its promises are made all the more significant - *promises of new life, hope, and victory.*

### Lenten Opportunities at Alpine:

**Lenten Worship Series *Living Lent*:** Each Wednesday during Lent we gather for a soup supper at 6 PM. Immediately following at 7 PM we gather in the sanctuary to examine what *Hopeful Living* looks like.

**Take part in fasting.** Chose something to sacrifice during Lent, so that we can better identify with the sacrifices that Jesus made for us. The key here is to take the time and resources we would have spent on our chosen item/habit and use them instead to focus on our relationship with Christ.

**Lenten devotionals** and bookmarks will be available in the gathering area. Grab one and explore (each day) what Living Lent means with a short reading, prayer, and response.

## BY THE NUMBERS

Attendance 3/3/19	63 + 41	104	Attendance 3/10/19
Ash Wednesday		61 + 37	98

**Required total receipts weekly.....\$8,213.71**

Gen Fund 3/3/19	\$8,671.00	Gen Fund 3/10/19	\$3,451.00
Forward in Faith	\$2,626.00	Forward in Faith	\$920.00
Surplus/Deficit	+\$3,083.29	Festival	\$259.00
		Surplus/Deficit	-\$3,583.71

**Surplus/Deficit YTD..... +\$8,386 (2/28/19)**

\*Please note that year to date totals include several pre-payments of annual pledges.

*Please be  
Praying for...*

**Pray for Alpine members:**

Pat Anderson, Rick Bried, Pat Christiansen, Ernest & Mary DeNale, Doris Fransen, Marybeth Gillette, Rich & Jan Hill, Peggy Lillegaard, Jack & Norma Lucas, Marguerite Lusth, Marian Olson, Jan Pauly, Donna Steele, JR Stropes, 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, Daniel Hendrickson, Shirley Kagel, Kathleen Lovins, John Mick, Sharon Mund, Carol Nelsen, Aileen Petersen, Tom Rogers, Bob Schult, Jeremy Sturges, Don Tennant, Brendan Welsh, and Penny Wendling.

### All In the Family

Birthday thanks came in from **Marlene Bukowski. Jan Pauly** sends her heartfelt thanks for the love, prayers, visits flowers and cards she has received while recovering from her recent fall.



### 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 (on hiatus until after Lent)

**Adult Forums:** Meet between services on the 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**March 24<sup>th</sup>**—Dick & Joyce Veit; Jim & Linda Whale; and Angela Wood-Zuzevich, Maddie & Lauren Zuzevich.

**March 31<sup>st</sup>**—Nan Strom; Bill & Sue Lovitt; and Bill & Diane Billert.



## LENTEN CALENDAR

**Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**—Soup Supper, Christian Ed/ Youth, 6 PM

**Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**—Lenten Worship, 7 PM

**Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>**—Church Council, 7 PM

**Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>**—Soup Supper, Worship & Music and Choirs, 6 PM

**Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>**—Lenten Worship, 7 PM



**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.

**Reminder:** Your payment is due for Work Camp.



**Lenten Worship:** Join us for worship every Wednesday evening during Lent at 7 PM. We will be using the Holden Evening Prayer service. This service is an Alpine favorite.

**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 set of committees hosts the supper, preparing soups, breads and desserts but we need your help. A sign-up poster is in the narthex for those not hosting 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.

**\*PLEASE TAKE NOTE:** The **last week of Lent** we will move our Wednesday soup supper and Lenten worship to **Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>**. This will allow Alpine to include our Rejoicing Spirits worshipers in our Lenten traditions. Please make a note on your calendars and plan to attend this service change.

Our daily devotional for this Lenten season is entitled "**Hope-Full Living**". This large print devotional helps us to reflect on Christ's journey to the cross and how we can live our lives to the fullest. They are available in the Memorial Lounge for everyone to take home and share with others.

With Lenten services on Wednesday evenings, the **Wednesday Evening Bible Study** will go on hiatus until sometime in May. Please watch future Summits for an article announcing it's return.



**Property Committee Thank You:** Many thanks to Al & Deb Geeser for all the hard work they put in to remove our ice glacier by the west door. This winter has caused many issues on our property and we can only hope that spring is right around the corner.



The **Altar Guild** is selling **2019 Easter Glory Garden** flowers from Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. Add beauty to our Easter celebration while you remember or celebrate an important person or event in your 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. (Laurel McVinnie)

**Sunday Morning Coffee Hour**—It's great spending time between services enjoying conversations with other members and visitors. It's especially nice when you can share a bite to eat and a beverage. We need volunteers to provide those snacks. All you need to bring are some treats (purchased or home baked) and a cold beverage. Everything else is provided. We also love to have you celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, or other special occasions with your Alpine family. Just sign up on the poster by the coffee. If you are new to doing this, or if you'd just like some help in serving, please see a member of the Alpine Connections Committee. Thank you.

**Cantata Rehearsals will begin Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>!** We are planning a Palm Sunday Cantata this year and will start our rehearsals on Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 PM. So clear your calendars so you can participate. All are welcome and encouraged to join us. (Richard Dowling)

**Have you noticed someone who sits in the pew behind you has been gone for a couple weeks** (and they are not "snow-birds")? Please make a note and drop it in the offering plate so our Connection committee can check on them and "re-connect". Our congregation members are important to us. Maybe they need something as simple as a ride to church; or maybe they are sick and need some get-well cheer; whatever the reason, we want them to know they are missed. (DiAnne Beynon)

Alpine Lutheran & the Alpine Academy are hosting an **Easter Egg Hunt** on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> and we need your help. We are looking for donations of candy and gift items (both for the eggs and door prizes). If you are able to help, please see Scott Dabson.



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

Alpine is in the midst of registration and enrollment for next year. We have an Open House Preschool registration on March 16 and an Open House Easter Egg Hunt on April 16. Scott Dabson, Admissions Director, has thousands of eggs to hide, most with candy, but some with prizes. He has many fun activities planned, so invite your friends and family to check out Alpine Academy at one of these Open Houses.

This week we learned about St. Patrick during Chapel. The classes heard how Patrick was taken from England by Irish marauders and sold into slavery in Ireland at the age of 16. Ireland was not a Christian country, but Patrick was a Christian, so he spent many years in prayer as he herded sheep. This part of Patrick's life always reminds me of David praying to God while he watched the sheep.

As Patrick grew up, he had a dream from God that he should run away. He did that and ran to the coast where he found a ship that would take him back to England. When he got back to his family he decided to pursue becoming a Priest. Eventually, he became a Bishop. Then he decided to return to Ireland to convert the people to Christianity. He worked for forty years and was successful at establishing many Christian churches in Ireland. He has been the patron saint of Ireland for over a thousand years.

Our students learn that one person can make a difference.

In Christ,  
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**

The **Memorial Committee** has updated our memorial board for 2018 with the names of those who have given to Alpine Memorials. They include: Liz Bertolotto, Marge Broquist, Ruth Lindgren, Irene Loy, Betty Peterson, Sid Robinson, and Helen Weaver. (Karl Okeson)

### From the SCRIP Desk:

Try and think, put some effort into it, do you remember the last time you purchased a new pair of shoes? SCRIP can help you remember and that day can be today. SCRIP carries gift cards to Shoe Carnival, Famous Footwear, Finish Line, and Foot Locker. Also, remember to designate your SCRIP profit to the church at least once a month in order to reach our end of the year goal of \$1000 (hopefully more) of unexpected blessings that will be given back to the church. (Deb Geeser)

### KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP

Many thanks to all who attended the **Shrove Pancake Supper** on Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. Your generous donations will help defer the costs for the 2019 Work Camp. (John Linde)

Do you give through **automatic collections** through your bank? Would you like to have envelopes for special giving such as Lent, Easter, and Christmas? At our annual meeting, we handed out packets of envelopes with the special giving dates on them. If you were unable to attend or did not receive your packet, they are available on the counter in the coat room.

**Would you like to give automatically from your bank account?** We can schedule your withdrawal weekly, monthly or twice a month. Please see Lynn in the office for more details.

**Do you own a Thrivent Financial policy?** Each year you need to designate where your Thrivent Choice Dollars go. The deadline for designating your Choice Dollars is March 31<sup>st</sup>. Last year, \$3,108 was contributed to Alpine through this program. This does not count the amount we received through the Action Team monies that are available for different fundraising projects. Please contact your Thrivent Financial agent for more information or see the flyers posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.



**Children's  
Church**

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. Please consider bringing a friend with you.



**-Katie's Choice Book Club meets** every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 10 AM. Each month a new book is chosen to discuss. Bring your copy and join the discussion.

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

\* \* \* \* \*

**Laundry Love**—This program, part of **RALM**, provides free laundry services to the needy every 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**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.

Our Savior's Lutheran is holding a **Stephen Ministry Introductory Workshop** on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9 AM to 1 PM. The Stephen Ministry is a group of lay caregivers who help pastors minister to people who are hurting after a loss or life changing event. They provide comfort and support for the "after" in someone's life. To register, visit [stephenministry.org/workshop](http://stephenministry.org/workshop) or call 314-428-2600. A flyer is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.



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 Grater 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/>

  
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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](http://alpinelutheran.com)

## THOSE WHO SERVE

### Sun., March 24, 2019

**Ushers:** (8:00) Les Johnson, Karl Okeson,  
Randy Teske, Volunteer  
(10:00) John Linde, Volunteers  
**Ambass.:** (8:00) Gwyn Brechtel, Nancy  
Matthews  
(10:00) DiAnne Beynon, Louise Dorris  
**Elements:** (8:00) Al & Marlene Garrett  
(10:00) DiAnne Beynon, Diana Sundeen  
**Lector:** (8:00) Al Garrett (10:00) Bob  
McVinnie  
**Lay Assist:** (8:00) Chuck Gentry, Glen  
McDonald  
(10:00) Bob McVinnie, Volunteer  
**Altar Guild:** Janet Gentry, JoAnn Christiansen  
**Praise Singers:** Chuck & Lynn Valentine

### Sun., March 31, 2019

**Ushers:** (8:00) Al Geeser, Carol Johnson, Tonya  
Mund, Jack Phillips  
(10:00) Volunteers  
**Ambass.:** (8:00) Lil Hagen, Louise Hemenway  
(10:00) David Line, John Linde  
**Elements:** (8:00) Gwyn Brechtel, Volunteer  
(10:00) Mark & Christine Stohle  
**Lector:** (8:00) Bob Fanello (10:00) Jari Sproule  
**Lay Assist:** (8:00) Bob & Lori Fanello  
(10:00) Zoey Doubek, Rashad Hyder  
**Altar Guild:** Joan Greeny, Volunteer  
**Praise Singers:** Chuck & Lynn Valentine