



Special points of interest:

Sunday Worship
8:00 AM Traditional
10:00 AM Praise
10:00 AM Facebook Live

Church Office Hours
Mon.—Thurs.
8:30 AM—4:30 PM
(Lunch 12:30—1:30)

In this issue:

Ash Wednesday	3
Lenten Soup Suppers	3
Lenten Devotional	3
Those Who Serve Volunteers	4

Monday, February 21, 2022

Volume 49, Issue 4

From the Pastor:

Grace Unbounded!

“Why do we celebrate Lent?” This question seems to come up every year. Traditionally, Lent is all about preparing ourselves for Easter. Easter, of course, is all about gaining our new life in Christ! But Lent is one of those things where, if you put nothing into it, you get nothing back. By going through the celebrations of Lent, Easter becomes more significant and special for us. The challenge for us is to decide, “What will take precedent in our lives?” Will we seek and uphold that which is important? Or will we allow ourselves to be dominated by the mundane business and pressure of the world that surrounds us? I realize that this is hard. Choices in life can be grey and difficult to deal with. But too often we fail to choose, we simply let life take over, let others decide what we will value or devote ourselves to. We allow all the things that cry loudest, flash brightest, or push the hardest to determine what we will devote ourselves and our lives too, instead of that which truly matters.

Lent provides an opportunity for us to free our hearts and minds from the selfishness that dominates the world around us. To say no to something we long for, and instead allow the Holy Spirit to cleanse us as we turn our hearts and minds towards the power of the Cross of Christ. The Cross is what can free us from everything that so easily captivates us. My prayer for all of us is that during the upcoming season of Lent we will choose to avail ourselves of the opportunities to step outside the pressures of our lives and devote time to God. To prepare ourselves, so that we can receive all the benefits and blessings that a new life in Christ can offer. That is after all, what Easter is really about.

Lenten Opportunities at Alpine:

Ash Wednesday March 2nd: Come and receive the ashes.

6:45 AM -7:30 AM Pr. Dan will be standing outside Door C (entrance on south side of building with overhang) distributing the ashes to all who drive up. No need to leave your car.

11:00 AM & 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Worship Services

Lenten Worship Series *Grace Unbounded!* “In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus reaches out to all kinds of people. He proclaims good news—in particular, to those experiencing poverty, oppression, or captivity. Despite the tensions at the time between Jewish people and Samaritans, he tells a story about a Samaritan who shows what it means to be a neighbor. Jesus also responds to those who want healing, welcomes time with children, shows great regard for women, shares meals with “unsavory” characters, and seeks out people who have lost their way. No limits, no restrictions, no boundaries—not even death—can stop his love and grace for all people” (from *Grace Unbounded*, this year’s Lenten Devotional).

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.

BY THE NUMBERS

2/6/22 40 + 36 76
2/6 Online views 21

2/13/22 29 + 29 58
2/13 No online views due to technical problem

Required total receipts weekly.....\$7,458.56

Gen Fund 2/6/22 \$5,127.00
Forward in Faith \$458.00
Surplus/Deficit -\$1,873.56

Gen Fund 1/30/22 \$4,358.00
Forward in Faith \$838.00
Surplus/Deficit -\$2,262.56

Unexpected Blessings.....\$5.00

*Please note that some totals include full-year giving



Pray for Alpine members:

Linda Becker, Rick Bried, Cindy Bulthaus, Chris Christiansen, Ernest & Mary DeNale, Marybeth Gillette, Louise Hemenway, Rich & Jan Hill, Dave Lillegaard, Glen McDonald, Valerie Miller, Velma Shoudy, JR Stropes, and Pat Turmo.

Pray for our friends and family of Alpine:

Sally Atkinson, Jason Bergeron, Kim Braun, Linda Conness, Cornelia Foley, Jerome Gill, Daniel Hendrickson, Darlene Johnson, Debra Johnson, Kathleen Lovins, Todd McDonald, Sharon Mund, Judy Osiwalla, Tina Randolph, Tom Rogers, Bob Schult, Jeremy Sturges, Don Tennant, Penny Wendling, all those on the front line and those affected with Covid-19.

All in the Family

Birthday thanks came in from **Diana Sundeen, John Linde and Bob Peterson. Tonya (Mund) Bagwell** expressed her thanks for all of the get well wishes she received. **Glenda Watson and Amanda & Morgan Dabson** send their appreciation for the flowers and expressions of condolence after the death of their husband, father and grandfather. **Glen McDonald and Kathy & Eugene Mund** send their thanks for the get well wishes, groceries, and meals during their recent bout with illness.

Worship Schedule :

Sunday Worship:

8:00 AM Traditional Worship (in-person)

10:00 AM Praise Worship/ YouTube-Facebook Live (in-person and online)

Children's Church will be meeting the first and third Sundays of the month, monthly Grab & Go packets will also be available for pick-up

Academy Chapel: 2:15 PM every Tuesday

Rejoicing Spirits: Every 2nd & 4th Thursday, via Zoom, 6:00 PM (This service is for those with developmental disabilities, their families, caregivers, and others.)

Men's Bible Breakfast: Tuesdays, Sunrise Restaurant, 7:00 AM



Pastor Dan's office hours: Mondays 9:00-12:00; Tuesdays 9:00 – 3:00; Wednesdays 9:00 – 3:00; and Thursdays 1:00 – 3:00. He is also available at other times by appointment.



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 the office whenever the need arises for extra prayers you may have.

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

February 27th — Genevieve Johnson; Bill & Diane Billert; and Dick Nelson.

March 6th — Steve, Sue & Ava Louthain; Dan, Deby, Jeff, Cally & Katy Damken; and LeRoy Dokken.



Tuesday, February 22nd—Bell Choir and Chancel Choir Rehearsals resume, 6 PM & 7:15 PM

Thursday, February 24th—Rejoicing Spirits via Zoom, 6 PM

Monday, February 28th—Mental Health Ministry, 5:30 PM

Wednesday March 2nd—Ash Wednesday Ashes, Drive-up, 6:45—7:30 AM

Wednesday, March 2nd—Ash Wednesday Worship, 11 AM & 7 PM



As I look back on my life,
I realize that every time
I thought I was being

REJECTED

from something good,
I was actually being

RE-DIRECTED

to something better.



Lent begins March 2nd and plans are in place for our Lenten materials and services. We are bringing back our **Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers**. With the shrinking numbers in our committees, we need your help. We are looking for volunteers to bring soups and desserts and to help serving and clean-up. Look for a sign-up poster in the narthex. "More hands make for light work."

From the SCRIP Desk:

The days are getting longer which means Spring is right around the corner - ok I am hoping it is right around the corner. Spring means our flower and vegetable gardens will need a little TLC.

Why not start stocking up on those TLC items such as waste bags, tools to do the proper cleanup such as rakes, shovels and shrub trimmers. SCRIP carries cards to Home Depot, Lowes, Menards, and Ace Hardware to help with Spring TLC. If you would like to volunteer to man the SCRIP desk on the 4th or 5th Sundays of the month, please contact Deb Geeser or Lynn at the church office. At this time there will be no SCRIP available between services on those Sundays. If you would like to purchase SCRIP during these weeks, please contact Lynn at the church office to help fill your orders. (Deb Geeser)

KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP

Alpine Academy is having a **Recognition Brunch**, Saturday, March 5th from 9 to 11 AM at the Stockholm Inn. This brunch is an opportunity to show appreciation to former staff, volunteers, supporters and donors. This year they recognize **Bob McVinnie**, former Alpine Academy Principal, and **Pat Turmo**, long-time volunteer. Tickets are \$20 which includes the cost of the meal. Reservation forms and a box to place them are on the Care & Concerns Counter.

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 (purchased or home baked). 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. (Laurel McVinnie)



"For you are dust and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19) Wednesday, **March 2nd is Ash Wednesday**. We will have worship services with the imposition of ashes at both 11 AM and 7 PM. Drive-up to door C and receive the ashes without having to get out of your car from 6:45-7:30 AM. This day marks the beginning of the Lenten season and our journey towards the cross. Our **Lenten Soup Suppers** will begin on Wednesday, March 9th at 6 PM. Lenten worship will follow at 7 PM with Holden Evening Prayer. Please mark your calendars and make the time to attend.

This year's Lenten devotional is entitled "**Grace Unbounded**". Explore the many ways God's grace abounds as we hear from many writers and their "unique voices and pastoral wisdom." These devotionals will be available after Ash Wednesday. There will also be some in the box outside the door F.



Alpine Academy
of Rockford
Faith • Family • Future

As you can imagine it's been a confusing last couple of weeks. Between mask or no mask decisions and preparing for a new school year while at the same time working hard with our students still for this year. Plans are underway for fun times too!

I am thankful that we have caring and understanding staff and parents. We've continued to remain focused on our core value of Grace that leads us to working hard to understand that each of us has differing opinions and suggestions on what we do. I'm thankful to everyone who is continuing to work with us to keep our Alpine Academy students, families and our staff safe and healthy.

Lutheran Schools Week begins Sunday, March 6th with our students helping in our Alpine worship service. Please RSVP for the Recognition Brunch March 5th. We are also excited to host a Movie Night on March 12th in the gym, please join us. We continue to thank Alpine Lutheran Church and all our Alpine Families for your ongoing support for our students and staff.

In Christ
Mr. Scott Dabson
Director
Alpine Academy



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

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



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

THOSE WHO SERVE

Sunday, February 27, 2022

Ushers: (8:00) Allen Geeser, Tonya Bagwell
(10:00) DiAnne Beynon, John Linde

Lector: (8:00) Pam Lojewski
(10:00) Bob McVinnie

Lay Assistant: (8:00) Pam Lojewski
(10:00) Bob McVinnie

Praise Singer: Becky Toro

Sunday, March 6, 2022

Ushers: (8:00) Glen McDonald, Kathy Mund
(10:00) Mari Hanson, John Gustafson

Lector: (8:00) Gwyn Brechtel
(10:00) Academy Kids

Lay Assistant: (8:00) Tonya Bagwell
(10:00) Dick Nelson

Praise Singer: Jaime Doubek



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. (Laurel McVinnie)



We all know people who are in **need of prayer** whether from sickness, death of a loved one, or any other reason. Please call the church office so that we, as an Alpine family, can lift up prayers for you and/or those in need of healing or comfort. **Together we can share God's love.**