



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 PM)

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Monday, February 6, 2023

Volume 50, Issue 3

From Pastor Dan:

Why should I study the Bible?

Most Christians agree that it is important to study the Bible. It is after all the word of God. It is supposed to be good for us, right? Makes us into better people. So why don't people study the Bible more often then? Figures today differ, but most claim that less than 10 % of Christians study the Bible on a regular basis. Lots of writers offer up many reasons why this is so. I believe that the main reasons are that 1) the Bible seems irrelevant and that 2) it is so often pushed to the back of our lives by more urgent and demanding matters. The first reason has to do with how people think about the Bible, the second with how they live their lives. The tragic thing is that this is crippling to the development of a Christians faith and awareness of God. Yes, it is true that the God will not scream at us if we ignore God's word. It is also true that pop culture views the Bible (as well as most ancient books) as out of touch, archaic, and simply not that useful. We have been so trained in quick instant gratification that we have a difficult time in any pursuit that takes time, effort, and perseverance. Spiritual formation (which involves developing a greater awareness of God in our lives) happens only as the ingrained sinful parts of us are slowly transformed into the image of Christ. In essence, we have turned out wrong, not the way God had intended us to be. Reading the Bible is an essential way that God brings about spiritual formation, a process that is not instant or painless. It takes effort and perseverance.

We can't do it on our own. We need the help of others in order to understand and apply the significant truths that we discover. That is why we emphasis small group Bible studies at Alpine. In studying the Bible with others, we discover just how relevant the Bible really is. We discover the joy of getting to know who God is. We discover all the misconceptions we have about faith, church, Christians, and God. We discover truths, that when applied to our lives are liberating, not enslaving. We discover the power of grace and forgiveness, not rules and judgment. If you have never studied the word of God in a small group, I encourage you to come discover what you have been missing. We have an open Bible study for men and women every Wednesday at 10:00 AM. Come discover what you are missing.

BY THE NUMBERS

1/22/23	30 + 45	75	1/29/23 (snowstorm)	13 + 25	86
Online Views		13	Online Views		19

Required total receipts weekly.....\$7,458.56 (2022 amount)

Gen Fund 1/22/23	\$1,345.29	Gen Fund 1/29/23	\$8,780.00
Forward in Faith	\$463.00	Forward in Faith	\$2,333.00
Surplus/Deficit	-\$5,650.27	Surplus/Deficit	+\$3,654.44

*Many of the January and February financials include full year pledge amounts and are based on 2022 budget amounts until the 2023 budget is voted on at the annual meeting.



Pray for Alpine members:

Linda Becker, Cindy Bulthaus, Mary DeNale, Marybeth Gillette, Louise Hemenway, Jan Hill, Jim Hill, Pam Hodges, Les Johnson, Valerie Miller, JR Stropes, Jeanne Tengren, Don Torgerson, and Pat Turmo.

Pray for our friends and family of Alpine:

Sally Atkinson, Kim Braun, Linda Conness, Cornelia Foley, Daniel Hendrickson, Darlene Johnson, Kathleen Lovins, Todd McDonald, Sharon Mund, Judy Osiwalla, David Rawls, Bob Schult, Jeremy Sturges, Don Tennant, Penny Wendling, and all those in the Ukraine conflict.

All in the Family

Birthday thanks came in from **John Linde**. We share our love and sympathy with **Larry Cross** and the **family of Kay Lamphere**. A special thank you to Andrea Tack & Samantha Todd from **John Linde** for the birthday celebration and flowers.

Worship Schedule :

- **Sunday Worship:**
8:00 AM Traditional Worship
10:00 AM Praise Worship/ YouTube-Facebook Live
- **Children's Church** meets every Sunday during the 10 AM worship, monthly Grab & Go packets will continue to be available for pick-up.
- **Academy Chapel:** 2:15 PM every Tuesday 1st—6th grades, 9:15 AM every Friday Preschool—K Everyone is invited
- **Rejoicing Spirits: Every 1st (in person) & 3rd (Zoom) Thursday, 6:00 PM** This service is for those with developmental disabilities, their families, caregivers, and others.
- **Men's Bible Breakfast:** 7:00 AM Tuesdays, Sunrise Restaurant
- **Wednesday Bible Study:** 10 AM, Conference room



Pastor Dan's office hours: Mondays 12:00-3:00; 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 on-going 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 12th — Nancy & Russ Hornbeck; Jan Galster; Bob & Lori Fanello; Mike & Deb LaFew; and John & David Linde.

February 19th — Angela Wood-Zuzevich, Madeline & Lauren Zuzevich; Dick & Joyce Veit; Becky Toro; and Nancy Matthews.

Sunday, February 12, 2023

Ushers: (8) Jim Anderson, Bob Fanello (10) DiAnne Beynon, Marge Rakoczy

Ambassadors: (8) Les & Carol Johnson (10) Aaron Ayen, Mike Schultz

Lector: (8) Bob Fanello (10) Martin Scott

Lay Assistant: (8) Dave DeNale (10) Nancy Matthews

Praise Singer: Jaime Doubek

Sunday, February 19, 2023

Ushers: (8) Karl Okeson, Randy Teske (10) Jim Burnett, Dick Nelson

Ambassadors: (8) Jan Anderson, Janet Gentry (10) John Linde, David Linde

Lector: (8) Andrea Tack (10) Bob McVinnie

Lay Assistant: (8) Deb Okeson (10) Bob & Laurel McVinnie

Praise Singer: Becky Toro



By now you should have received your invitation and raffle tickets for the **Academy Dinner and Family Feud Night, Saturday, March 4th**. This event was planned back before Covid and literally was cancelled the day of the event due to the state closing down. You can RSVP for this year's dinner anytime starting in February. Scott Dabson will also be available between services.

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. Thank you.



Scout Sunday—February 12th

Sunday, February 12th, at the 10:00 service, several of our scouts from Troop 57 will be assisting during the worship service. The Boy Scouts have been chartered by Alpine Lutheran since 1949. Come and show your support to this great group of young people and their leaders. (Rolly Greenland, Chartered Rep.)

February's Council Meeting will be a organizational meeting for all returning and new Council members. We will meet on Saturday, February 11th at 9 AM. This meeting usually lasts around 2 hours. Food and coffee will be provided.

From the SCRIP Desk:

If you have not already done so, we have some SCRIP cards in stock for that special someone. If you are all ready for Valentine's Day, it is time to start thinking about Easter. Don't forget the Academy needs more candy and eggs this year for the 2 Easter Egg Hunts. Order your SCRIP cards now to help them with their needed supplies. (Jody Dabson)

KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP

2023 Altar Flower and Eternal Candle charts are up. Remember loved ones passed or celebrate a special event. Each sponsorship helps to defray the cost of our flowers every year. (Altar Guild)

The **Staff of Alpine** wishes to thank everyone for their generous gift for 2022. We are very blessed to work in such a loving church whose congregation shows so much support as we work together to share God's Word.

A new **Those Who Serve** schedule will be out soon. Please watch your email. Please prayerfully consider volunteering for a ministry at Alpine. It is becoming more and more difficult to complete the 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)

Calling All C & E Singers! Lent is quickly approaching . Ash Wednesday is February 22nd with an early Easter. This year's cantata will be a Good Friday Tenebrae presentation. We will begin rehearsals the Tuesday following Ash Wednesday, February 28th at 7:15 PM. All are welcome to join us as we prepare this special musical presentation.

Ash Wednesday is February 22nd. We will have 2 services at 11 AM and 7 PM. The Lenten worship services will be held Wednesdays 7 PM after the soup supper at 6 PM.

The **2023 Congregational Resourcing Event** will be Sauk Valley Community College on Saturday, March 4th, 9:15 AM - 3:30 PM. The event is open to all congregation members. Take advantage of this learning event and discover new ways to enhance our congregation. Please call the office or see Pastor Dan if you are interested in attending. The church will pay your registration fee.



We invite all children to come to our **Children's Church** during the 10:00 worship hour. Grab bags will be available for pick-up.



Alpine Lutheran Church
5001 Forest View Ave. Rockford, IL 61108
alpinelutheran@comcast.net
www.alpinelutheran.com

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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



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

Called by Christ, our mission is to share God's love.

We are just one month away from our Family Feud Dinner Auction. We're excited to be able to bring on the return of this event. Today we're excited that we get to include a celebration of 25 years of education at Alpine! Over 25 years Alpine has hosted a school and had hundreds of students and their families impacted by the work being done. We've walked alongside staff, students and families as they received a quality education and we walked along with them in their faith. Alpine Academy has certainly had it's struggles, yet we are half way through our 25th school year and ready to celebrate together the commitment of Alpine Lutheran Church and the many staff, students and families who have walked through our doors.

I encourage you to join us on March 4th for this dinner event. You should have received your invitation in the mail. Now you can return your RSVP and register to join us this year. We have been working on planning this event and have some great fun and wonderful silent auction items. Remember to purchase your raffle tickets for a chance to win a choice of a \$1000 tuition credit or \$500 cash. We will also have fun games and even a lottery ticket raffle.

The food for this year's dinner is coming from Sam's Ristorante and Pizzeria on Riverside. Our meal will include mostaccioli, meatballs, Italian beef, salad and desert. We will have gluten free as well for those who need it. Please let us know when you RSVP if someone in your party needs gluten free.

This year's event is \$15 per person and raffle tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. You can RSVP by mailing your RSVP card to the school, dropping it off or between services through the month of February. You can also email your response to RSVP@alpineacademyofrockford.com and indicate you plan to pay at the event. If you email please include the number of people in your party.

We look forward to our Alpine Family Feud Dinner and hope you do too. Help us to celebrate 25 years of education at Alpine and the commitment this congregation made 25 years ago!

In Christ,
Scott Dabson
Director
Alpine Academy



Alpine Academy
of Rockford
Faith • Family • Future