

**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, January 22, 2024

Volume 51, Issue 2

***From Pastor Don:***

Have you ever been with someone in a time of silence and heard them say what you were thinking? Or sing the song that had been going through your head? Or you say or sing what they were thinking or singing to themselves? When this happens to me, two factors are usually present: It's someone whom I know well, and there aren't distractions present.

Last Sunday (1/14) all three readings included the element of hearing God's voice. In one reading God's voice was unfamiliar to the one being addressed, in another God's voice had been sought for many years, and in the third God's voice had been largely ignored.

This Sunday (1/21) the readings each contain a call to change direction and be re-oriented toward God. By the time you read this, you may have already heard the sermon that I have yet to prepare. But here's what I'm thinking about today.

Whether we have been longing to hear God or thinking we want God to leave us alone, we are most likely to hear God when we are familiar with God's voice and when we are not distracted. One way to accomplish both of those things is to begin our day by reading the Bible. I don't mean devotions or faith-inspired writing, although those can be quite good. But there's no substitute for hearing God's word directly.

If this is already a practice for you, consider this as support and encouragement. If this is not yet or not recently a practice, here's a simple way to start: Read for 5 minutes a day. Or a chapter a day. Pick any of the gospels to start; we're in the year of Mark right now. Or start with Matthew because it's the first in order. Or start with John because it has the strongest claims about Jesus. Or start with Luke because you like the Christmas story. But start somewhere.

I do better with this being among the first things I do each morning than saving it for later. But you may find otherwise. And when you miss a day, don't beat yourself up. The benefit is in the time with God, not in completing a task. And see if you start hearing God at other times of the day than when you're reading. May you be the best of friends!

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Don Wink

**BY THE NUMBERS**

1/7/24	32 + 54	86	1/14/24	17 + 27	44
Online Views		17	Online Views		24

Required total receipts weekly(2023 amt.).....\$7,759.44  
 \*Some initial deposits of the year include full year pledge amounts

Gen Fund 1/7/24	\$8,628.74	Gen Fund 1/15/24	\$5,452.92
Forward in Faith	\$1,320.00	Forward in Faith	\$1,988.00
Surplus/Deficit	+\$2,189.30	Surplus/Deficit	-\$318.52

Year to Date Deficit (2023).....-\$4,343.00



**Pray for Alpine members:**

Wendy Barton, Bill & Diane Billert, Cindy Bulthaus, Mary DeNale, Rolly Greenland, Jan Hill, Jim Hill, Pam Hodges, Les Johnson, Kyle MacCrindle, Glen McDonald, Valerie Miller, JR Stropes, Melissa Stucky, Jeanne Tengren, Pat Turmo and Chuck Valentine.

**Pray for our friends and family of Alpine:**

Sally Atkinson, Kim Braun, Lindsay Earnest, Cornelia Foley, Daniel Hendrickson, Darlene Johnson, Ron Johnson, Larry Kagel, Don Moorhouse, Rev. Willard Olson, Judy Osiwalla, Bob Schult, Derek Sisson, David Teeters, Don Tennant, Penny Wendling, Ali Younglove, and all those in the Ukraine & Israel-Gaza conflicts.

**All in the Family**

Birthday thanks came in from **Nancy Lorenzen**. Many thanks came in from **Eugene Mund** for the many Christmas cards he received. **Glen McDonald** sends his thanks for the cards and prayers that he continues to receive. We also send out our love and sympathies to **Glen McDonald**, whose daughter, Jennifer Sturges, passed away January 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Worship Schedule :**

- **Sunday Worship:**  
8:00 AM Traditional Worship  
10:00 AM Praise Worship/ YouTube-Facebook Live
- **Children's Church** will meet at the 10 AM worship during the service, seasonal 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 1<sup>st</sup> (in person) & 3<sup>rd</sup> (Zoom) Thursday, 6:00 PM** This service is for those with developmental disabilities, their families, caregivers, and others.
- **Tuesday Bible Breakfast:** 8:00 AM Tuesdays, Sunrise Restaurant
- **Thursday Bible & Brews:** 7:00 PM, Brewsky's



**Pastoral Needs:** Pastor Wink is in the office M, T & Th. He is working from home on Wednesdays, but is available through the office



**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.**

**January 28<sup>th</sup>** — Pastor Don & Joy Wink; and Sandy, Shannon & Rachel Cooley.

**February 4<sup>th</sup>** — Christine, Liam & Miles Brady & Payton Hanson; and Robert & Bea Lundgren.

## Sunday, January 28, 2024

Ushers: (8) Tonya Bagwell, Jack Phillips(10) John Linde, Marge Rakoczy

Ambassadors: (8) Les & Carol Johnson (10) Volunteers

Lector: (8) Carla Phillips (10) Lynn Valentine

Lay Assistant: (8) Deb Okeson (10) Mike Schultz

Praise Singers: Chuck & Lynn Valentine

## Sunday, February 4, 2024

Ushers: (8) Wendy Barton, Andrea Tack (10) John Gustafson, Mari Hanson

Ambassador: (8) Jack & Carla Phillips (10) John Linde, David Linde

Lector: (8) Gwyn Brechtel (10) Dick Nelson

Lay Assistant: (8) David DeNale (10) Dick Nelson

Praise Singer: Bob McVinnie

### **Official Notice:**

**The congregation of Alpine Lutheran Church is hereby convened for its annual meeting to take place on Sunday, February 11, 2024 at 11:30 AM. The meeting will include reports and election of members to the church council.**

**Scout Sunday** will be **Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>** at our **10 AM** worship service. Troop 57 is the third oldest continually running Troop in the Winnebago County area. We welcome the scouts and their families as they join us in participating in our worship.

There will be one **service at 10 AM on Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>**. We hope this adjustment will allow for more people to attend the annual meeting. The Those Who Serve schedule was written before knowing the date of the annual meeting. An adjusted list will be in the next Summit.

John Linde and his crew of volunteers will be providing a **light lunch prior to the annual meeting**. This year, all collections for the lunch will go to the **"Soup"er Bowl of Caring**. Launched in 1990, Tackle Hunger helps to raise awareness, food and monetary donations for food pantries, soup kitchens, food banks and other hunger-relief charities within their community. The ELCA is a partner in this effort, encouraging churches to hold fundraisers on Super Bowl Sunday. We continue to join in this effort at our annual meeting lunch.

**The 2024 Altar Flower and Eternal Candle** charts are up. Remember your loved ones passed or celebrate a special event by sponsoring the flowers each week or eternal candle each month. Each sponsorship helps to defray the cost of our flowers every year and we thank everyone for contributing to this ministry. (Altar Guild)

**Fellowship is a very important part of every congregation.** We all enjoy conversing after church especially with coffee and a treat. We need people to provide those treats. You do not need to be a master baker. Purchased treats are just as good. We also need juice to be served along with the coffee. Then all you need to do is man the table. It is very simple. (Help with clean-up is also appreciated.) A sign-up sheet is available by the coffee.

**2023 Giving Statements** will be available to pick up from the counter in the coat room by January 14<sup>th</sup>. If you find any discrepancies please contact Lynn in the office. 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 contact Lynn for an email copy.

### **From the SCRIP Desk:**

Valentine's Day will be upon us soon. Have you purchased a gift for your Valentine? SCRIP has cards for dinner, movies, candles, and even candy. Stop by now, check out our stock, or put in an order. (Jody Dabson)

### **KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP**

As we begin a new year, 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 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 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)

It is important that you receive our emails or notices on Facebook to know the most up to date information for Alpine Lutheran. If you would like to add your email to our list please notify Lynn in the office. You may find us on Facebook by searching **Alpine Lutheran Church of Rockford**. Like the page and then turn on notifications for new posts.



**Join us for Children's Church!** We are now having the kids leave the 10 AM service at the beginning of the worship service allowing more time for learning. Seasonal grab bags will be available for pick-up.



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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.**



**Bible & Brew Continues every Thursday!** Alpine Outreach Committee has launched Bible & Brew, a Bible study held at a local establishment. We will be moving to Brewsky's to give their space a try. Come and join us as we discuss the "Invitational Christian" by Dave Delbert.

As **Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service** enters its 85th year, They are excited to share the beginning of an impactful new chapter in the history of our organization. On January 17, 2024, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) is becoming **Global Refuge**. Their decision to rebrand is rooted in the massive worldwide need for compassionate support of those seeking safety. With more than 100 million people displaced by war, famine, climate change, and persecution, our mission of providing the "long welcome" is more crucial than ever.

**Northern Illinois Synod's Congregational Resourcing Event (CRE)** will be March 16, 2024 at Sauk Valley Community College. We will gather around this year's theme of Open God's Story. This will be a time to connect God's work throughout the Bible with God's work in our lives. We will have more information on this event. Please consider attending this event.