



Special points of interest:

Sunday Worship
 8:00 AM Traditional
 10:00 AM Praise Worship
 with Children's Church
 10:00 AM YouTube Live

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

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Monday, October 13, 2025

Volume 52, Issue 18

From the Pastor's desk:

Letting Go and Holding On

Our extended warm weather has given elementary school kids plenty of days to be out on the playground. I don't know whether monkey bars are still considered safe enough to remain available, but I remember the exhilaration that our kids felt when they were able to maneuver across them. Monkey bars test coordination, physical strength, and willingness to risk. In order to get from the first bar to the third bar, one needs to let go of the first bar while holding onto the second bar and swinging toward the third one. Moving forward requires both letting go and holding on.

I've been thinking about that as our time together is drawing toward a close. My last Sunday at Alpine will be October 26th, which is also Reformation Sunday. You might hear the monkey bars image in the sermon that day unless I come up with something better-suited. But for now it will have to do. These past 23 months have included letting go and holding on. Holding on to what we know while letting go of enough to free a hand to grab hold of what's next. It's hard for us to do with traditions, practices and habits. And it's hard for us to do with people.

I have enjoyed being with you and serving as your pastor. Thank you for welcoming me into your lives. And thank you for your willingness to try some new things with me. The nature of interim ministry is that my assignment was to prepare Alpine and myself to leave. To let go...and have the next bars we reach toward be a new pastor for Alpine and a new setting for me.

Alpine is ready for Pastor Rachel. And Pastor Rachel is ready for Alpine. You'll each begin with what you know and hold onto it. And you'll each be open to-- even expecting-- new things. So the first reach will not require letting go of anything. Then it gets harder. The thing that will take Alpine forward will only be reached when you let go of what you know. Sometimes you'll be exhilarated. And sometimes you'll fall. But even in falling, you'll have gained the experience of letting go. And be confident the next time that swinging more boldly toward that third bar will generate enough momentum to get you there.

And...when we remember well, as I will remember you, we can hold onto the memory without remaining in place.

"Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do his will, working among us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen." (Hebrews 13:20-21)

Pastor Don

BY THE NUMBERS

9/28/25	One service	95	10/5/25	37 + 46	83
	Online Views	11		Online Views	18

Required total receipts weekly.....\$8,279.29

Gen Fund 9/28/25	\$3,825.01	Gen Fund 10/5/25	\$5,530.00
Forward in Faith	\$1,025.00	Forward in Faith	\$1,135.00
Surplus/Deficit	-\$2,779.28	Surplus/Deficit	-\$1,284.29

Unexpected Blessings.....\$530.00 53/54 Week.....\$450.00



Pray for Alpine members:

Wendy Barton, Roger Bastian, Tim & DiAnne Beynon, Diane Billert, Mike Bukowski, Beverly Clayton, Kathy Cordonnier, Rolly Greenland, Pam Hodges, John McCue, Glen McDonald, Valerie Miller, JR Stropes, Jeanne Tengren, and Pat Turmo.

Pray for our friends and family of Alpine:

Sally Atkinson, Kim Braun, Cornelia Foley, Daniel Hendrickson, Darlene Johnson, Bill LeGault, Danny Moorhouse, Michael Moorhouse, Peggy Moorhouse, Rev. Willard Olson, Judy Osiwalla, Bob Schult, Derek Sisson, Bob Swenson, Don Tennant, Ali Younglove, and all those in Ukraine & Israel-Gaza.



All in the Family

Birthday thanks came in from **Wendy Barton** and **Kathy Cordonnier**.

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.
- **Adult Forums** will be on various Sundays. Please watch for announcements of dates.
- **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.
- **Tuesday Bible Breakfast:** 8:00 AM Tuesdays, Sunrise Restaurant
- **Thursday Bible & Brews:** On hiatus until further notice.



Pastoral Needs: Pastor Wink plans to be in his office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, He will be working from home on Mondays and can be contacted through the office on that day or when he is not in 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.**

Oct . 19th — Joan Greeny; Bobby, Michelle, Landon & Chloe Mounts; and Russ & Nancy Hornbeck.

Oct . 26th — Richard Nelson; Pam Hemenway; Jim Hill; Steve, Sue, Lucas & Ava Louthain.

Sunday, October 19, 2025

Ushers: (8) Karl Okeson, Randy Teske (10) Jim Burnett, Dick Nelson
Ambassadors: (8) Carol Johnson, Deb Okeosn (10) Aaron Ayen, Mike Schultz
Lector: (8) Pam Lojewski (10) Lynn Valentine
Lay Assistant: (8) Pam Lojewski (10) Chuck Valentine
Praise Singer: Becky Toro

Sunday, October 26, 2025—ONE SERVICE

Ushers: John Gustafson, Marge Rakoczy
Ambassadors: Gwyn Brechtel & the Rivera Family
Lector: Becky Toro
Lay Assistant: Deb Okeson
Praise Singers: Chuck & Lynn Valentine



On Sunday, September 28th, we came together as a congregation for a Meet & Greet with pastoral candidate Rachel Perkins-Gama. We enjoyed fellowship, a meal and got to know Rachel and her family. Following our Meet & Greet, our congregation voted to offer a Call to be pastor at Alpine Lutheran Church. Council President, Scott Dabson reached out to Rachel and shared with her the positive vote. Rachel nearly immediately accepted the Call and shared her excitement for joining us at Alpine! **Alpine is delighted to announce that we have Called Pastoral Candidate Rachel Perkins-Gama as Pastor at Alpine Lutheran Church in Rockford.**

Rachel will be ordained and installed in the coming months. She will begin serving Alpine on **Sunday, November 16th, with ONE SERVICE at 10 AM** followed by a Welcome Fellowship. We will have a larger celebration following her installation.

We have been blessed with our interim pastor, Don Wink, and although we will miss him greatly, wish to send him off in Alpine fashion. Details are still being planned but we have the date for you to save. **October 26th we will have ONE SERVICE at 10 AM followed by a celebration.** We will have food and fellowship. There will be a box for your cards of appreciation.



Calling all C & E singers! Have you ever thought about participating in our **Christmas cantata**? Every year we welcome our C & E singers to participate in both our cantatas. Richard has chosen the selection for this year. We will have music books and eventually CDs to help learn the music. The choir has already started looking at the music. Please see Richard if you would like to participate.

Rock River Valley Pantry would like to help every child start their school day off right. They are having a **Back to School Cereal Drive**. Boxes of cereal can be dropped off at all Rockford Community Bank locations and at Rock River Valley Pantry. **We now have a collection barrel in the front vestibule.** Monetary donations can be mailed to the pantry Attn: Cereal Drive, 421 S. Rockton Ave., Rockford, 61102. Every dollar and box will make a difference to a hungry child!

Adult Forums - Our adult forums have returned to the 3rd Sunday of the month between services, at 9:15 in the conference room. For **Sunday, October 19th**, we will welcome Mary Hunt, a volunteer from **Ruthie's Kitchen and Ruthie's Closet**. Come and hear how you can impact the lives of those in the Mid-town District. If you have any topics that you would like to see, please contact Lisa Slothower, 815-289-6933, or any member from the Christian Ed Committee.

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. Just sign up on the poster by the coffee. Thank you.

We need you! Our list of volunteers for our worship services has been slowly depleting especially when it comes time for our "snow birds" to fly south. Have you ever thought of helping during our services; ushering, greeting, reading or lay assisting? Our new schedule goes through the beginning of January. There is always room for more people to fill our schedule. If you would like to volunteer for a particular opening, please contact Lynn in the office and she can add your name to our list. (Lynn Valentine)

Additional Sound/video techs needed! We thank those who have served and continue to serve as our Audio/Video techs for our 8 & 10 AM worship services; Joni Graham, Dave DeNale and Morgan Dabson. We would like to train additional people (at least one per service). Joni may become a snowbird and it won't be long before Morgan will be graduating and heading off to college. If this is something you might enjoy? Please contact Lynn in the office.



Children's
Church

Our Children's Church is back!

We have resumed our Children's Church during the 10 AM Worship. Please invite your kids and grandkids to attend. Seasonal grab bags will continue to be available.



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Non-profit org
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Rockford, IL
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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.

FREE Community Shred Day

Clear out your old files and protect your privacy at **Northwest Community Bank's** FREE Community Shred Day!
When: Saturday, October 18, 9AM—12 PM, at the Riverside and Machesney Park locations
Drive-thru & hassle-free – just pull up and we'll handle the rest.
Paper Shred Only – No plastic bags, electronics, binders, or non-paper materials.
Limit 2 Bankers Boxes (approx. 15" x 24" in size).

Rockford's 2025 Crop Walk for Hunger is Sunday, October 19th. It's mission - that goes back to relief work following WW II - is as vital today as when it first began. It supports the work of Church World Service (CWS) here and around the world where hunger continues - to the point of starvation in some area. To sign up, contribute and reach out to others to do the same, please visit <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/event/rockfordil>.



Being active in church means regularly attending services and actively participating in the congregation's ministries, community events, and outreach efforts, which can deepen your faith, build relationships, provide a sense of purpose, and fulfill biblical callings to serve others and spread faith. Alpine offers many areas to be involved from committees, choirs, our praise band, coffee hour and several areas of our worship experience. Please contact Lynn in the office, 815-399-5013, to receive more information. Become involved in Alpine!