



**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, February 23, 2026

Volume 53, Issue 4

*From the Pastor's desk:*

Grace and Peace to you all!

The Lenten season is upon us! This season we are invited into a deeper connection and relationship with God and the beloved Body of Christ. We will be gathering together weekly on Wednesday evenings for our Soup Suppers and Midweek Lenten service. This year, we are participating in the Lenten worship created by the Northern Illinois Synod. The theme this year is "Going Deeper: Conversations with Jesus". We will have our soup suppers at 6pm in the fellowship hall and remain there for our worship. As we journey through this season together, may we be intentional about remembering who we are and who we belong to. We are dust, Holy and loved. Wonderfully made. Eternally forgiven.

There are a few dates that are important in the month of March:

**March 1** is our annual meeting; **One service**

**March 22** is my installation with Pastor Josh Ebner; **One service**

**March 29** is a 5th Sunday and Palm Sunday; **One service**

Palm Sunday we will provide lunch and the service at Rockford Rescue Mission. We would appreciate any and all volunteers that can come!

March will have many One service Sundays due to our context and circumstances. We will get back to our regular two services in April!

Blessings to you all,  
 Pastor Rachel

**BY THE NUMBERS**

<b>2/8/26</b>	19 + 61	80	<b>2/15/26</b>	27 + 33	60
Online Views		11	Online Views		9
Required total receipts weekly.....\$8,279.29					
Gen Fund 2/8/26	\$10,402.00		Gen Fund 2/15/26	\$3,441.00	
Forward in Faith	\$3,615.00		Forward in Faith	\$555.00	
Surplus/Deficit	+\$5,758.29		Surplus/Deficit	-\$4,283.29	
Unexpected Blessings.....\$20					



**Pray for Alpine members:**

Wendy Barton, Tim & DiAnne Beynon, Diane Billert, Mike Bukowski, Beverly Clayton, Kathy Cordonnier, Rolly Greenland, Pam Hodges, Glen McDonald, Valerie Miller, Kathy Mund, Richard Popp, Ramijio Rivera, JR Stropes, and Pat Turmo.

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

Sally Atkinson, Brynn Ballard, Kim Braun, Blake Dummer, Daniel Hendrickson, Sandy Jackson, Darlene Johnson, Bill LeGault, Rosalind Lykken, Serenity Messenger, Danny Moorhouse, Michael Moorhouse, Peggy Moorhouse, Rev. Willard Olson, 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 **Nancy Matthews, Nancy Lorenzen** and **Diana Sundeen**. **Richard Popp** expressed his thanks for the prayers and cards he has received during his recovery from his fall.

**Worship Schedule :**

- **Sunday Worship:**  
8:00 AM Traditional Worship  
10:00 AM Praise Worship & Children's Church/  
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 your Summit for announcements of dates.
- **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



**Pastoral Needs:** Pastor Rachel will be off on Mondays and in the office Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. She will also be available by appointment on Fridays. All other times, please contact the office, 815-399-5013.



**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.**

**Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>** — Cary Ralston; Craig & Barb Shelton; and Pete, Andrea (Tack) & Samantha Todd.

**Mar. 8<sup>th</sup>** — Rich & Linda Rimkus; Barb Yahn; and Keenan, Samatha & Elia Yahn.

**Sunday, March 1, 2026—ONE SERVICE**  
**Annual Meeting Sunday**

Ushers: Karl Okeson, John Gustafson  
Ambassadors: Deb Okeson  
Lector: Dick Nelson  
Lay Assistant: Dick Nelson  
Praise Singer: Bob McVinnie

**Sunday, March 8, 2026**

Ushers: (8) Bob Fanello, Randy Teske (10) DiAnne Beynon, Volunteer  
Ambassadors: (8) Jack & Carla Phillips (10) Mike Schultz  
Lector: (8) Randy Teske (10) Jari Sproule  
Lay Assistant: (8) Deb Okeson (10) Chuck Valentine  
Praise Singers: Jasime Doubek

**Official Notice:**

**The congregation of Alpine Lutheran Church is hereby convened for its annual meeting to take place on Sunday, March 1, 2026 at 11:30 AM. The meeting will include reports and election of members to the church council.**

**\*The Council has voted to keep our outside doors locked during the week days. Please ring the RING doorbell and someone will be with you as soon as possible.**



Our **Soup Suppers** will begin on **Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>**. Join us each week as we join in fellowship for a meal and worship. In preparation, the Soup Supper sign-up poster is in the narthex. Please consider helping with bringing a soup, bread or dessert. Committees help with setup and clean-up. This evening of is always an Alpine favorite.

For our **Lenten worship services** this year, we will meet in Fellowship Hall following the Soup Supper. Join us as we delve into the series written by the Northern IL Synod entitled "*Going Deeper: Conversations with Jesus*".

Our **Lenten devotionals** for this year are entitled "*Love Outpoured*", a collection of devotions written by several pastors and bishops from the ELCA. They have been ordered and will be available in the Memorial Lounge soon. Please start with one per family.

The magazine "**Living Lutheran**" is back in print. We will be receiving a few copies of each issue for the congregation to take home, read, and then share. The current winter issue highlights **Yeheil Curry** who was installed as the presiding bishop of the ELCA on October 4, 2025. The copies are available on the Cares and Concerns counter in the narthex.

We are currently looking for someone to clean the church twice a week. This paid position involves cleaning bathrooms, vacuuming, emptying trash, dusting and various other cleaning duties. If you know of someone, please have them call the office.



It is hard to believe that in 5 short weeks it will be Holy Week. The **Altar Guild** has begun planning and the ordering for our **2026 Easter Glory Garden flowers** will begin Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. We will have our traditional lilies and tulips. Order envelopes will be available on the kiosk in the narthex. The cost is \$13 per plant. Orders will be taken through Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. (Laurel McVinnie)

The **Memorial Board** has been updated with the names of those families who gave to the 2025 Alpine Gifts and Memorials.

**Thrivent Choice Dollars** are funds that eligible members of Thrivent are offered to direct to enrolled nonprofit organizations, including Alpine. Choice Dollars designated during 2026 can be directed until March 31<sup>st</sup>. Members can direct Choice Dollars online at [thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://thrivent.com/thriventchoice) or by calling 800-847-4836.

**2026 Altar Flower and Eternal Candle** charts are up and ready for your dedications. Remember loved ones passed or celebrate a special event. 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.

**Children's Church**



**Join us for Children's Church!** The children leave the 10 AM service at the beginning of the worship service after the opening song to allow for more time for learning. Seasonal grab bags will be available for pick-up.



**Alpine Lutheran Church**  
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www.alpinelutheran.com

Non-profit org  
U.S. Postage  
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Permit #2653

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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

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

GiGi's  
Playhouse™

Down Syndrome Achievement Centers  
educate. inspire. believe.

### **Community Highlight: GiGi's Playhouse Rockford**

GiGi's Playhouse offers FREE therapeutic, educational and research-driven programs to individuals of all ages with Down syndrome.

#### **This year's annual appeal is Mission: Possible II**

At GiGi's Playhouse Rockford, we believe that every achievement—big or small—is worth celebrating. From a toddler signing their first word to an adult landing their first job, every success is made possible by our community of dedicated givers who believe in the mission. Your gifts fuel the tutoring, speech, fitness, and career programs.

To make a donation, visit [gigisplayhouse.org/rockford](http://gigisplayhouse.org/rockford).  
Be a part of the mission to success.