



Special points of interest:

Sunday Worship
8:00 AM
10:00 AM

Rejoicing Spirits
6:00 PM (2nd Thursday)

Family Worship (Gym)
4:30 PM (2nd Saturday)

Contact:
office@alpinelutheran.com
815-399-5013

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Monday, September 9, 2019

Volume 46, Issue 18

From Pastor Desk:

Dear Alpine Family

The recent action of our Churchwide Assembly declaring the ELCA to be a “sanctuary church body” has generated lots of headlines, reactions, rumors, and misconceptions. It is my heartfelt desire that we all be well informed and have healthy discussions about what this means and how it will affect our ministry.

Our synod has provided some explanations and information for us:

- You may read the assembly’s action in the 2019 Churchwide Assembly Legislative Update for Wednesday, August 7 at <https://is.gd/legupwed>. You can find video recordings of all sessions at www.elca.org/cwa. Hearing the discussion that led to the decision may be of some help.
- The ELCA press release stated, “As a sanctuary church, the ELCA is committed to serving and supporting migrant children and families in communities across the country.” We have already been involved in this accompaniment through the ELCA’s strategy called AMMPARO (Accompanying Migrant minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities).
- The ELCA has publicly declared that walking alongside immigrants and refugees is a matter of faith. What that looks like will differ from synod to synod and congregation to congregation because all ministry is contextual.

Let us be clear:

- In our interdependent polity, nothing in the Churchwide Assembly action binds a congregation, synod, agency or institution. It only binds the Churchwide expression of the church.
- The Churchwide Assembly action does not call for civil disobedience or any illegal actions. Any congregation that engages in illegal activity must be ready to accept the legal consequences. Congregations are urged to seek legal counsel regarding these issues.
- The question of what it means to be a sanctuary church body will now have to be studied by the ELCA’s Church Council. We do not currently have a clear or commonly accepted definition. A report will come to the next Churchwide Assembly in 2022.
- The Question of what this means for the ministry of Alpine Lutheran Church is open for discussion. We are being called to pray and seek guidance from God on how the shape and form of our mission might respond to the needs of the world around us.

This can be seen as an invitation for us to join together to pray and to discuss. We are, as always, guided by scripture and the undeniable value that God has a heart for those who are forgotten, victimized, impoverished, or abandoned by this world. We are reminded that Jesus came into this world and lived his early childhood years as in illegal refugee, having fled his home country because of violence and murder. In Matthew 25:31-46 Jesus shares the parable of the sheep and the goats. He concludes with this truth. *“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me. (vs. 40).”*

BY THE NUMBERS

Attendance 8/25/19 41 + 52 93 Attendance 9/1/19 62 + 47 109

Required total receipts weekly.....\$8,213.71

Gen Fund 8/25/19	\$4,527.00	Gen Fund 9/18/19	\$6,324.00
Forward in Faith	\$690.00	Forward in Faith	\$1,665.00
Surplus/Deficit	-\$2,996.71	Surplus/Deficit	-\$224.71
53 rd /54 th Week		\$490.00	

Surplus/Deficit YTD..... +\$10,392.48 (7/31/19)

*Please note that year to date totals include several pre-payments of annual pledges.



Pray for Alpine members:

Pat Anderson, Rick Bried, Cindy Bulthaus, Pat Christiansen, Tim Christiansen, Scott Christiansen, Scott Dabson, Ernest & Mary DeNale, Doris Fransen, Marybeth Gillette, Rich & Jan Hill, Peggy Lillegaard, Richard Lovitt, Jack & Norma Lucas, Marguerite Lusth, Valerie Miller, Marian Olson, Ron Pauly, Donna Steele, JR Stropes, Melissa (Bukowski) Stucky & Family and Darold Walker.

Pray for our friends and family of Alpine:

Sally Atkinson, Tim Babcock, Kim Braun, Linda Carter, Linda Conness, Jerome Gill, Daniel Hendrickson, Kathleen Lovins, Todd McDonald, Sharon Mund, Carol Nelsen, Aileen Petersen, Tom Rogers, Sharon Schnier, Bob Schult, Jeremy Sturges, Elizabeth Tankersley, Don Tennant, Penny Wendling, Debra Whittock and Sharon Wrye.

All In the Family

Louise Hemenway sends in her thanks for helping her celebrate her 90th birthday. "Many thanks for the cards and best wishes, the altar flowers and especially the hugs."

Worship Schedule :

Sunday Worship service times are **8 & 10:00 AM**. Children's Church will continue to meet during the 10:00 AM service.

Every 2nd Thursday, Rejoicing Spirits Worship at **6 PM**. A service for those with developmental disabilities, their families, caregivers, and others.

Every 2nd Saturday, Family Worship at **4:30 PM**. A service in our gym with family activities following.

Bible Studies :

- * Tuesday Men's Breakfast Bible Study at 6:45 am at Sunrise Restaurant
- * Wednesday Morning Bible Study at 10 AM, Conference Room

Adult Forums: Meets between services on the 1st Sunday of every month. A light breakfast will be served. Doesn't meet during Summer. Resumes Sunday, September 8th.

To reach Pastor Dan after office hours, you may call 815-399-5487. Please leave a message and he will respond as soon as possible.

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 Pastor Dan whenever the need arises for extra prayers you may have.

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

Here are the members for the next few weeks.

September 15th—Joseph & Judah Barron; Amanda & Morgan Dabson; Jim & Denise Burrnett; and Darrell & Donna Brenner.

September 22nd—Martha Carlson; Scott & Kathy Christiansen; Dick & Wendy Barton; and Ted, Tiffany & Ben Croisant.



Tuesday, September 10th—Christian Ed/Youth, 6:30 PM
Wednesday, September 11th—Chippers Golf Play Day @ Prairie View
Thursday, September 12th—Rejoicing Spirits Worship, 6 PM
Saturday, September 14th—Family Worship, Gym, 4:30 PM

***Adult Forum Change:**

Our adult forum from Sunday, September 8th had to re-schedule for Sunday, September 15th. Joyce Palmer from LSSI will be here to discuss therapeutic foster care and the current need for more foster parents. A light breakfast will be served. Please plan to attend.



“Let everything that breathes praise the Lord.” -Psalm 150:6 It is time for our choirs to resume rehearsals after their well deserved summer break. **Hand Bell Choir & Chancel Choir** will meet at their regular times; 6 PM & 7:15 PM respectively every Tuesday evening. We invite anyone who loves to praise the Lord to join us! We would also like to extend an invite to any new praise singers or instrumentalists to join our **“Alive In Him” praise band**. We recently added conga drums and a cajon to our set of instruments. Come and join us as we learn some new songs and lift praises to God. (Richard Dowling)

Save the Date:

Friday, November 1st is the annual RALM Trivia Night. Tables of 8 available or sign-up individually. It will be held at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church on Rural. Doors open at 6 PM, play begins at 7 PM. The cost is \$15 per person. Alpine usually has 1 to 2 tables.

We have extended our Summer Worship Series **“Empowered for Jesus’ Mission”** through Sunday, September 15th. We will discuss a story from the book of Acts and how it can empower us just as it empowered Jesus’ first followers.

From the SCRIP Desk:

AMC has decided to leave the SCRIP family. We have 3 AMC cards (as of the typing of this article) and once they are gone they are gone. I hate to say it but Christmas season will be here before you know it. Have you noticed some of the stores are already selling Christmas items? I know what you are saying this is too soon, I agree, but some good can come of it! The good is we still have plenty of time to stock up on SCRIP cards to our favorite - I hate to say it - holiday stores. Start stocking up now a few extra cards a week so the holiday season is not such a pain to your wallet (Deb Geeser)

KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP

Financial Request: Please include your name and envelope number on all envelopes you turn in especially if you give cash. This allows us to record your giving for tax purposes. We thank you for supporting Alpine and our ministries!



This year’s **God’s Work, Our Hands** project is a collection of socks and undies for those in need at **Just Breathe 815**, a resource center for homeless teens. Our Social Ministry & Connections Committee will be collecting all adult sizes. A collection basket has been placed in the narthex along with a poster with more details. They will be collecting through September. (John Linde)

***Please Note: Christian Ed/Youth Committee** will meet on Tuesday, September 10th instead of the 3rd. We will meet at the regular time, 6:30 PM. (Mari Hanson)

Katie’s Cup Conversation: Join us on Tuesday, September 24th, 11 AM to noon, for “Midtown Medicine: Rich history, bright future” presented by LP Johnson Family Health Center.



I know it is hard to believe but summer has ended. Many of you are staring to make your plans to **head south** to get away from the impending Illinois winter. Please remember to **notify the church office** as to when you will be leaving and an approximate date of return. The Postal Service charges us for all returned mail. Additionally, if you would prefer to receive your Summit via email, the office can make that change for you. Thank you.

Are you able and willing to pick someone up and drive them to church? Many of our Alpine members are no longer able to drive and may want to attend worship services or events. Please contact Laurel McVinnie or the church office to be added to our list of drivers and thank you for assisting our Alpine home-bound.

Are you on Facebook? Search for “Alpine Lutheran Church of Rockford”, then like and follow our page . You will be able to see and follow any Alpine events that are posted to the page. (Scott Dabson)



**Alpine Academy
of Rockford**
Faith • Family • Future

God's blessing to all. We put into our Alpine Academy prayers a healing for Scott Dabson, our Enrollment Coordinator, for Tim Beynon, husband of school board secretary DiAnne Beynon, and for Tim Babcock, church custodian and brother of school custodian Jim Hill. Our faculty and students pray God is watching over them and will bring healing to each.

We thank the congregation of Alpine Lutheran Church for your prayers and support as we begin a new school year. We are expecting to enroll some new students as the Rockford Public Schools have now begun and parents choose to make changes.

Because of increased costs we will be expanding our fund drives. So, I will be seeking help from this congregation when those fund appeals begin.

In Christ,

Principal Bob McVinnie



Alpine Academy of Rockford

In partnership with

Alpine Lutheran Church

Give your child the gift of a quality education that enriches the lives, spirits, and minds

in a safe environment.

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Now enrolling students
for our 2019-20 school year



Attention All Chili Enthusiasts! The Walkers will be hosting the annual Chili Shoot-Out on **Saturday, October 5th at 5 PM**. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex. This is a favorite Alpine event that you don't want to miss.

The new **Those Who Serve** schedule is finished and was emailed out to you last week. Our core group of volunteers is dwindling. Have you ever thought of serving in any of the areas; usher, lay assistant, ambassador/greeter, element carrier, or reader? We need more volunteers. You may call the office or speak to Pr. Dan if you are willing to help in this ministry. Laurel McVinnie also needs to know for our next schedule when and for how long you will be gone if you are an Alpine Snowbird. This will prevent you from having to get replacements while you are gone. Thank you to all our volunteers for serving Alpine and its members. (Laurel McVinnie/Lynn Valentine)

The **RALM Annual Meeting** is Sunday, September 29th at St. Mark Lutheran Church, 3 PM. RALM encourages all rostered folks and 2 delegates from each congregation to attend. The business of the meeting will be kept to a minimal. The main purpose of this meeting is to encourage discussion with the lay members and rostered to unite our congregations as one church and leave footprints in our communities. Please see Pastor Dan if you would like to become a delegate.

Do you enjoy the fellowship during our coffee hour?

Why not provide treats to be served. 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 on the coffee hour table. (Laurel McVinnie)

Are you new to Alpine?

Many visitors to Alpine like to stop and read about the families that are currently members of Alpine. Is your family represented? Please submit a family photo and a short "bio". There are forms available in the pocket on the wall. If you would like to update your photo or information, we would love to do that as well. Just resubmit your info and we will update it. (Dave DeNale)



We invite all children to come to our Children's Church during the 10:00 worship hour. We will be discussing the lessons used in the worship service for that week through discussion and arts and crafts.

All are welcome to join us.



-Katie's Choice Book Club meets every 2nd Thursday of the month at 10 AM. Each month a new book is chosen to discuss. The book chosen for September is "Between Shades of Gray" by Ruta Sepetys. "At once a suspenseful, drama-packed survival story, a romance, and an iatrically researched work of historical fiction." - The Wall Street Journal Bring your copy and join the discussion.

-Katie's Cup Bunco: Join us every 3rd Thursday of the month at Katie's Cup for a session of Bunco and great fellowship. We meet from 1:30—3 PM.

* * * * *

Laundry Love—This program, part of **RALM**, provides free laundry services to the needy every 3rd Wednesday of the month at Charles Street Laundromat. The program exists to help alleviate the strain that poor health and hygiene places on the most venerable members of our community. Co-Coordinators are Bob Black & Dave Musser.

Anderson Gardens Tuesday Morning Worship—This is a free non-denominational Christian Service at 7-7:30 AM in the pavilion in the Garden. Each week the service is lead by a different pastor and musician from the community. After the service you are encouraged to explore the gardens for no charge.

Keep Alpine Updated: With current HIPAA laws, **the church is not informed when you are hospitalized.** Please have a friend or family member notify the church directly. OSF St. Anthony's and Rockford Memorial does not call at all, Swedish American only calls when you are admitted to the hospital through your physician, not the ER. We want to keep in contact with you especially when you are in need of support.

Are you planning on moving? Drop a note to the church office so you do not miss any mailings. The church has to pay for each newsletter that is returned for a wrong address.

What does becoming a sanctuary denomination mean for the ELCA?

- In its simplest form, becoming a sanctuary denomination means that the ELCA is publicly declaring that walking alongside immigrants and refugees is a matter of faith. The ELCA Churchwide Assembly, the highest legislative authority of the ELCA, declared that when we preach on Sunday that Jesus told us to welcome, we will use our hands and voices on Monday to make sure it happens.
- We have a broken system regarding immigration, refugees and asylum-seekers. To declare ourselves a sanctuary church body is to say that we seek to provide concrete resources to assist the most vulnerable who are feeling the sharp edges of this broken system.
- Being a sanctuary denomination is about loving our neighbors. While we may have different ideas about how to fix this broken system and may have different ways of loving our neighbors, our call to love our neighbor is central to our faith.
- Being a sanctuary denomination will look different in different contexts. It may mean providing space for people to live; providing financial and legal support to those who are working through the immigration system; or supporting other congregations and service providers. We cannot mandate or direct our congregations and ministries to respond in specific ways. Each must work out what this means for them in their context.
- While we don't yet know the full scope of the work that this declaration will open for the church, we do know that our faith communities are already doing sanctuary work. Sanctuary for a congregation may mean hosting English as a second Language (ESL) classes, marching as people of faith against the detention of children and families, providing housing for a community member facing deportation, or, in some of our congregations, having thoughtful conversations about what our faith says about immigration. All of these are a step closer to sanctuary in our faith communities and sanctuary in our world for people who must leave their homes.
- Except for our members whose ancestors were here before European settlement or others who were forced to come to the U.S. against their will, the ELCA is an immigrant church. Our decades long work with immigrants and refugee is how we practice our faith in the world. Lutherans started Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, one of the nine refugee resettlement agencies in the U.S.



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

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

THOSE WHO SERVE

Sun., September 15, 2019

Ushers: (8:00) Jim Anderson, Bob Fanello,
Bryan Garrett, Kathy Mund
(10:00) Russ Hornbeck, Dick Nelson, Mike
Schultz, Brandon Williams
Ambass.: (8:00) Sandy Cooley, Carole Rogers
(10:00) John Linde, David Linde
Elements: (8:00) Al & Deb Geeser
(10:00) Ardy Stevens, Diana Sundeen
Lector: (8:00) Carla Phillips (10:00) Becky
Toro
Lay Assist: (8:00) Chuck Gentry, Glen
McDonald
(10:00) Zoey Doubek, Rashad Hoel
Altar Guild: Laurel McVinnie, Cary Ralston
Praise Singers: Chuck & Lynn Valentine

Sun., September 22, 2019

Ushers: (8:00) Les Johnson, Randy Teske,
Volunteers
(10:00) John Linde, Volunteers
Ambass.: (8:00) Lill Hagen, Louise Hemenway
(10:00) DiAnne Beynon, Louise Dorris
Elements: (8:00) Gene & Donna Seefeldt
(10:00) Mark & Christine Stohle
Lector: (8:00) Donna Seefeldt (10:00) Terry
Hodges
Lay Assist: (8:00) Bob & Lori Fanello
(10:00) Terry Hodges, Allen Neumann
Altar Guild: Janet Gentry, JoAnn Christiansen
Praise Singers: Chuck & Lynn Valentine