



Special points of interest:

Sunday Worship
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

Academy Chapel
Every Tuesday, 2:15 PM

Rejoicing Spirits
6:00 PM (2nd Thursday)

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

815-399-5013

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From Pastor Desk:

Monday, January 13, 2020

Volume 47, Issue 1

The Essence of Giving Good Gifts.

Thinking back over this past Holiday season, I am reminded once again about the importance of gift giving. For some, giving gifts can be a burden - both because of unrealistic expectations and because gifts can be given in so many bad ways (to bribe or manipulate for example). Under these circumstances it is easy to see how we can forget just how significant a ministry of gift giving can be. Gary Chapman reminds us that it is one of the 5 love languages. For some, it is the primary way that they desire to be loved. Gifts come in many different shapes, sizes, colors, and forms. Good gifts are not always material or expensive. Good gifts most often are the ones that are thoughtful, sacrificial, self-made, or connect someone to memories of people or special events. Gifts can bring joy, encouragement, smiles, laughter, and hope. They help others to experience our love through something more than words. Gift giving can also a ministry, one that can be gifted and empowered by God. Even if giving gifts seems hard for us, we cannot let that stop us from learning to communicate the love we have for those whom God has placed in our lives.

The word gift appears 159 times in the Bible. Below are some of my favorite verses on gifts; they give us insight to the significance and purpose of gifts in our lives.

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. James 1:17

Each one should use whatever gift they have received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10

Thanks be to God for God's indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:15

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8

For this reason, I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. 2 Timothy 1:6

If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" Luke 11:13

The angel answered, "Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God. Acts 10:5

BY THE NUMBERS

Rejoicing Spirits 143 Saturday Family Worship 19 Attendance 12/15/19 64 + 42 113
 Attendance 12/22/19 77 + 96 173 Attendance 12/24/19 83 + 30 113 Attendance 12/29/19 51 + 45 96

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

Gen Fund 12/8/19 \$4,035.00	Gen Fund 12/22/19 \$7,741.00	Gen Fund 12/24/19 \$1,215.00
Forward in Faith \$975.00	Forward in Faith \$1,100.00	Forward in Faith \$420.00
Surplus/Deficit -\$3,203.71	Surplus/Deficit +\$627.29	
Gen Fund 12/29/19 \$3,740.00	53 rd /54 th Week \$375.00	Festival \$1,190.00
Forward in Faith \$605.00	Unexpected Blessings \$465.00	
Surplus/Deficit -\$3,886.71	Surplus/Deficit YTD..... - \$3,667 (12/31/19)	



Prayer Requests

Pray for Alpine members:

Pat Anderson, Rick Bried, Cindy Bulthaus, Pat Christiansen, Scott Christiansen, Ernest & Mary DeNale, Doris Fransen, Chuck & Janet Gentry, Marybeth Gillette, Rich & Jan Hill, Gary Hunt, Peggy Lillegaard, Ed Lorenzen, Richard Lovitt, Jack & Norma Lucas, Marguerite Lusth, Valerie Miller, Marian Olson, Ron Pauly, Marge Pearson, 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, Linda Fry, Jerome Gill, Daniel Hendrickson, Kathleen Lovins, Todd McDonald, Sharon Mund, Carol Nelsen, Judy Osiwalla, Tom Rakoczy, David Rawls, Felicia Rawls, Tom Rogers, Sharon Schnier, Bob Schult, Jeremy Sturges, Elizabeth Tankersley, Don Tennant, Penny Wendling, Sharon Wrye and Karen & Delaney Younglove.

All In the Family

Birthday thanks came in from **Marge Rakoczy** and **Barb Shelton**. **Donna Brenner** sends her thanks for the birthday wishes and beautiful flowers she received. **Jack & Norma Lucas** expressed their thanks for the flowers they received. Congratulations and God's blessing go out to **Addison Eloise May Hier** baptized into God's family on Sunday, December 22nd. Her parents are Lucas & Samantha Hier; grandparents Matt & Debbie Hier.

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 on Stowmarket
- * Wednesday Morning Bible Study at 10 AM, Conference Room #1

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

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.

January 19th—Chuck & Janet Gentry; Bob & Linda Radford; Jerry & Wilma Nichols; and Dave Blascoe

January 26th—Matt & Debbie Hier; Rollin Greenland; Bob & Violet Peterson; Robert & Bea Lundgren; and Valerie Miller.



Monday, January 13th—All Annual Reports are Due
Monday, January 20th—Martin Luther King Day
Sunday, February 2nd—ONE WORSHIP SERVICE, 10 AM
Sunday February 2nd—Annual Meeting & Light Lunch, 11:30 AM
Sunday, February 9th—Adult Forum, 9:15 AM

Official Notice:

The congregation of Alpine Lutheran Church is hereby convened for its annual meeting to take place on Sunday, February 2, 2020 at 11:30 AM. The meeting will include reports and election of members to the church



Sunday, February 2nd is our **Annual Meeting Sunday**. There will only ONE worship service at 10:00 AM. The service will be followed by the meeting in Fellowship Hall at 11:30 AM. At the meeting, we will be having elections for the 2018 Church Council as well as going over the financial information from 2017 and the 2018 budget.

Join us for lunch prior to the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 2nd. John Linde and his crew are serving a light lunch for a free will offering that will go to costs and youth work camp.

Due to the Annual Meeting being held the first Sunday in February, the **Adult Forum** will be on the second Sunday, February 9th. A representative from CherryVale Place will be her to discuss the myths of assisted living and what is a good fit for you. A light breakfast will be served. Please mark your calendars.

2019 Giving Statements will be available to pick up at the Annual Meeting. Any remaining statements will be mailed out the following week. If you would prefer, they can be emailed out. Please let Lynn know.

From the SCRIP Desk:

I would like to thank the congregation for your support this past year with SCRIP. We not only met our goal of unexpected blessings of \$1000.00 we had enough "left over" to pay for shipping cost next year. Our goal for next year will be \$1100.00 that will be an unexpected blessing to the church. Remember it is easy to use your SCRIP cards and we have many areas of the SCRIP program such as grocery, restaurants, sporting goods, drug stores, and many other categories. Grab a order form from the SCRIP desk and take it home and see how many businesses support the SCRIP program you will be surprise. Once again THANK YOU to everyone that supported the SCRIP program this past year. (Deb Geeser)

KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP

Recently a new **Those Who Serve** schedule went out. In the holiday rush, the phone/e-mail list was not ready when the schedule was. Please keep a look out for the new list which should be available soon.

We would like to create an **email list** of all members so that we may send out notices for events that are happening at Alpine. If we have your email on file it will be added to the list. If you would prefer to remain off the list, please let Lynn know in the office and she can make the change.

The January issue of "**Living Lutheran**" is here and available on the Care & Concern counter in the narthex. This month's lead story "Unpacking White Privilege: The important work of making the church less harmful" is written by Yolanda Denson-Byers and Shari Selfert. Please stop and take home a copy, read it and then share it with a friend.



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. If you are new to doing this, or if you'd just like some help in serving, please contact Laurel McVinnie.

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 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 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)



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

Happy New Year! The second half of the school year has begun and the remainder of our school year is sure to be full of fun, excitement and plenty of learning. Our students closed out the first half of our school year by presenting their Christmas Program and did a fantastic job. This year's attendance gave us a warm feeling as we entered the Christmas season as the gym was full of supportive members of our Alpine Family.

As we prepared to return from our Christmas break we presented information about the Academy at the Jan. 5th Adult Forum. If you were in attendance that day you learned of our upcoming dinner. We have not had a fundraising dinner at the school in several years and this year we have a great dinner planned. We announced that this year's dinner will have the theme of "Alpine Family Feud!" Academy Principal Bob McVinnie has challenged Pastor Dan to a Game Show event at our dinner. We look forward to a family event with game show entertainment. We are one family here at Alpine and being able to spend this evening at this event is something we are all looking forward to. This will truly be a fun night with a real Friendly Feud Game. We hope you can join us for our dinner. The night will also include many silent auction items, games and great opportunities to fellowship together. The cost for the dinner will be \$15 and include a Italian Pasta Dinner. You should be receiving an invitation soon and can RSVP to the school or soon in between services on select Sundays.

We look forward to many events with our students throughout the remainder of this school year. All of our Alpine Family is welcome to join us for all of our events. We are now beginning our enrollment push for the 2020-2021 school year and need your help. Please refer your friends and family to Alpine Academy. If you would like to help the school by placing a yard sign in your front yard please contact me and I'll get you a sign. Follow us on Social Media and share our events and posts about enrollment all of this helps our family grow together. Let us work together to make 2020 a great year for all of our Alpine Family! We are in this together and our Alpine Family has and continues to make an impact on those that we connect with. Together may God help us connect with more families this new year and help them to be a part of our Alpine Family and find a deeper connection in faith with God!

In Christ
Scott Dabson
Admissions Director
Alpine Academy



The **2020 Flower and Eternal Candle charts** are now up and ready for you to sign-up 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. (Laurel McVinnie)

Mark Your Calendars: Friday, February 28th we will host another Lifeline Screening. Appointments will be needed. More information with the tests offered and how to make appointments will be coming soon.

The **Altar Guild** is in need of more **coffee cans** to deliver flowers to our members. Unfortunately the plastic and shorter decaf cans do not work. They need the 39 oz. taller cans. (Laurel McVinnie)

Are you a Thrivent Financial member? If so, did you know that you are allowed 2 Action Team cards per calendar year that can benefit projects and events at Alpine? This \$250 card provides seed money to make the event or project a success. **John Linde** is looking for a card to purchase supplies and food for the Shrove Pancake Supper. Please see him if you are able to help with a card. (John Linde)



Bell Note: As some of you may know, the bells were gone this summer to Malmark, the maker of the bells in Plumsteadville, Pa for refurbishing. They were taken apart completely and worked on. They have all been repaired from years of use, voiced, polished and back to beautiful. Richard Dowling, director of our Bell Choir, would like to say "Thanks You" to the families and friends whose memorial gifts made this possible: Ruth Moen, Gordy & Loretta Walker, Clara Rader, Bob Worthing, Barb Greenland, Lucille Weddle, and Alyce Krusemeier. They not only look like new but sound great too.



Join us for Children's Church during the 10 AM worship. We will be learning about the lessons from the worship service and how we can share God's Word with others.



-**Katie's Choice Book Club** meets every 2nd Thursday of the month at 10 AM. Each month a new book is chosen to discuss. 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.

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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-Coordinator are Bob Black & Dave Musser.

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.

January Needs for Carpenter's Place: Hand warmers, travel-size tissues, lip balm, long underwear (men's & woman's), winter coats, scarves, gloves, deodorant, shaving cream, gallon size bags, and air freshener. Donations can be dropped off at Carpenter's Place M-F, 9-3 PM, 1149 Railroad Ave.



You're Invited!

bork, bork, bork . . .

Swedish Pancake Fundraising Breakfast

Saturday, January 18

9 am - noon

Katie's Cup

502 Seventh Street

featuring Swedish pancakes, sausage,
lingonberries, coffee, butter, syrup. - yoo betcha!

Benefitting
Katie's
coffee-conversation-community
CUP

\$10 Adult, \$5 Children
No reservations needed
Questions? 815.968.0628

Save the Date!

Second Annual

Having Your Cake (or Pie!) and Eating it too!

February 21, 2020

Fundraiser for Katie's Cup

Dinner, with a Delectable, Decadent DESSERT AUCTION

Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Country Club, Rockford

5:30 pm - Check in/dessert viewing/cash bar



Non-profit org
U.S. Postage
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Rockford, IL
Permit #2653

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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

THOSE WHO SERVE

Sun., January 19, 2020

Ushers: (8:00) Jim Anderson, Bob Fanello, Bryan Garrett, Kathy Mund
(10:00) Russ Hornbeck, Dick Nelson, Mike Schultz, Brandon Williams
Ambass.: (8:00) Jan Galster, Louise Hemenway
(10:00) Amanda Dabson, Mari Hanson
Elements: (8:00) Al & Marlene Garrett
(10:00) Amanda Dabson, Mari Hanson
Lector: (8:00) Bob McVinnie (10:00) Jari Sproule
Lay Assist: (8:00) Glen McDonald, Bob McVinnie
(10:00) Zoey Doubek, Rashad Hoel
Altar Guild: Laurel McVinnie, Cary Ralston
Praise Singers: Chuck & Lynn Valentine

Sun., January 26, 2020

Ushers: (8:00) Les Johnson, Randy Teske, Volunteers
(10:00) Volunteers
Ambass.: (8:00) Nancy Matthews, Shirley Schou
(10:00) John Linde, David Linde
Elements: (8:00) Matt & Debbie Hier
(10:00) Mark & Christine Stohle
Lector: (8:00) Carla Phillips (10:00) Dick Nelson
Lay Assist: (8:00) David DeNale, Chuck Gentry
(10:00) Dick Nelson, Mike Schultz
Altar Guild: Janet Gentry, JoAnn Christiansen
Praise Singers: Chuck & Lynn Valentine