

**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, April 6, 2020

Volume 47, Issue 7

A Story About Jesus

Dear Alpine

So much is happening so fast. Sometimes it feels almost impossible to keep up. As we navigate these challenging times, there are all sorts of Pastoral questions that I have. Who is being left behind and forgotten in our crisis responses? How are those who are out of work managing? What about people who live alone and closed off from everyone? Is everyone getting the medical help, attention, and food that they need? Are people taking unnecessary risks with their health? Amidst these urgent concerns there are also more subtle, deeper concerns. How are we coping with depression, anxiety, fear, and loneliness? What about people whose self-worth is ripped from them as they struggle with being unable to do what they feel is their vocation? How will we work from home and be a teacher/parent/entertainer/event coordinator for our kids?

It is hard to know where to begin. There are answers. They may not be easy answers that wash all our worries away in an instant, but they exist. But in these times, I find it better to connect people with a person. With Jesus. It is only in developing deeper connections with Jesus that we find the answers and help that we truly need (even if they are not the responses that we desire or want).

So, let me tell you a story about Jesus. On one of Jesus' journeys he was walking along a road and all around him was chaos. People were pushing and shoving. Yelling to get Jesus' attention. Everyone wanted something from Jesus - most of them an urgent or quick healing. It was all the disciples could do to stop the crowd from trampling Jesus. I am sure that you can picture the scene in your mind. In the middle of all this, a desperate woman who had been suffering for years risked her life to try and touch Jesus. She had been declared an unclean person and was forbidden by law from touching anyone (she most likely lived with the fear of immediate stoning if she did). You can imagine how desperate she was to risk everything by squirming her way through the crowd just to touch the hem of Jesus' cloak. As she did, she was healed. Immediately Jesus noticed. He stopped everyone and asked, "Who touched me?" The disciples incredulously wondered "Is he serious?" Everyone was touching everyone in this mess. But Jesus noticed. He immediately began to speak with this woman. Acknowledged both her need and her value.

(Continued on pg. 4)

BY THE NUMBERS

Online Views 3/22/20 159
Online Views 3/29/20 179

Required total receipts weekly.....**\$8,215.67**

Gen Fund 3/22/20	\$5,920.00	Gen Fund 3/29/20	\$1,495.00
Forward in Faith	\$1,845.00	Forward in Faith	\$680.00
Surplus/Deficit	-\$450.67	Surplus/Deficit	-\$6,040.67

Festival.....\$235.00 53/54.....\$365.00

***Surplus/Deficit YTD..... + \$12,691.48 (2/29/20)**

*Please note that these figures include several prepayments of full pledges.



Pray for Alpine members:

Pat Anderson, Tim Beynon, Rick Bried, Cindy Bulthaus, Pat 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, 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, Kim Braun, Linda Carter, Linda Conness, Linda Fry, Jerome Gill, Daniel Hendrickson, Debra Johnson, Kathleen Lovins, Todd McDonald, Sharon Mund, Helen Newsome, Judy Osiwalla, Tom Rogers, Bob Schult, Jeremy Sturges, Elizabeth Tankersley, Don Tennant, Brendan Welsh, Penny Wendling, Sharon Wrye, Karen & Delaney Younglove and all those affected with Covid-19.



All In the Family

We share our love and sympathy with the family of **Bert Johnson** who died on March 26th,
and the family of **Jerry Nichols** who died March 5th.



Worship Schedule : (when we are able to again)

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.

April 12th—Jean Knutson; Donna Larson; Robert & Carol Loucks; and Vince Bertolotto.

April 19th—Joshua, Christine, Peyton Hanson, Liam & Miles Brady; Joan & Nicholas Chockalingam; and Jack & Norma Lucas.



All church, Academy and outside activities and meetings are either canceled or postponed through April 30th. We will reevaluate as we are updated by officials.

Thursday, April 9th—Maundy Thursday, worship service online, 7 PM

Friday, April 10th—Good Friday, worship service online, 7 PM

Sunday, April 12th—Christ Is Risen! Easter Sunday, worship service online, 9 AM

(continued next column)

Thursday, April 16th—Council Meeting, teleconference
Sunday, April 19th—Worship service online, 9 AM



Work Camp Reminder: The second payment for Work Camp was due in March. If you have not paid your fee, please mail it to the church or contact John Linde to make arrangements.

*In compliance with the Winnebago County Health Department and mandates from the State of IL, Alpine Lutheran will be closed to all non-essential meetings and events. This includes Scouts, Bible studies, soup suppers, choirs, committee meetings and the like. There will be a limited staff at the church and the office will be run remotely. We will be sanitizing all areas of the church for your protection and to limit the spread of this virus.

Please watch your emails or check our Facebook page for the most up-to-date notices on all church activities and worship services. If you know of someone who is unable to receive notifications this way, please share the information with them.

We appreciate everyone who is keeping up with their giving. We understand that there may be some of us who are unable to do this with many businesses closed for our protection. There are several ways to keep current: you can mail your giving directly to the church, you can use electronic bill pay through your bank if offered, or you can ask to sign-up to do auto collection as a direct payment from your bank account.

Alpine Lutheran & the Alpine Academy have postponed the **Easter Egg Hunt** until further notice. We are still in need of donations of candy and gift items (both for the eggs and door prizes). If you are able to help, please call Scott Dabson, 815-494-3002, for a time you can drop off donations.



The Altar Guild sends their thanks for your orders for the **Glo-ry Garden flowers**. We will be displaying them on Easter Sunday for the worship service. If we are still unable to meet, you may call Lynn in the office to find a time to pick yours up.



Hand Bell Choir, Chancel Choir & C & E Singers, and Praise Band members: We will not be meeting until the mandates are lifted. Please keep watch for notices regarding all rehearsals. **For all C & E Singers**, with the extension of the "shelter in place" order, we will not be able to perform our cantata for Easter and the weeks following. We will reassess whether to do it later or save it for next year.

If anyone has an old **i-phone or i-pad** that they are no longer using, version 6 or above, and would like to donate it to the church, please contact Scott Dabson, 815-494-3002. We only need the Wi-Fi and camera, no cell service, for recording the worship services.

From the SCRIP Desk:

With our current situation, sales of SCRIP are on hold. As things change we will keep you informed. (Deb Geeser)

KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP

The **Property Work Day**, scheduled for Saturday, April 25th, has been postponed until a later date. Please watch for an article when we have determined the date.

Please consider making a donation to the **Rockford Rescue Mission** in place of the meals we normally provide on Palm Sunday. As we know, the virus has changed the lives of many and the homeless who benefit from their services have been hit especially hard.



**Children's
Church**

Join us for Children's Church during the 10 AM worship once we are back for church services. We will be learning about the lessons from the worship service and how we can share God's Word with others through crafts and games.

(continued from front page)

Sometimes it feels like we are living in chaos. That there is no rhyme or reason to what is happening as everybody around us is pushing and shoving and screaming for what they want. This story helps us to see and know that Jesus sees. Jesus notices our struggles. We may not get the answer we want (not everyone was healed that day). But we are not ignored. Jesus will stop and talk with us if we want. God's schedule is never so filled that God does not have time for us. This story also reminds me that what we need most is a connection with Jesus. A life altering relationship that changes our perspectives so that we move away from being the people that clamor to be the center of attention to be the very hands and feet of Jesus - extending God's love into our broken world. Just like Jesus did.



Holy Week Worship Schedule

Please note: All Services are virtual: Broadcast Live on Facebook and uploaded to our YouTube Channel. Our Building remains closed through April 30th.

Palm Sunday April 5th 9:00 AM: Live via Facebook

Journey with Jesus April 6th - April 11th Daily Devotions: Follow along as Pr. Dan reads the stories from the last week of Jesus' life.

Wednesday Prayer Meeting April 8th 7:00 PM: Live on Facebook

Maundy Thursday April 9th 7:00 PM: Interactive Reading with Holy Communion, broadcast on Facebook and YouTube channel.

Good Friday Service April 10th 7:00 PM: Broadcast on Facebook and YouTube channel.

Easter Sunday Worship April 12th 9:00 AM: Join us Live on Facebook as we celebrate Our Lord's Resurrection. Holy Communion will be celebrated during this service.

Even though we are separated, and our building is closed, we will be celebrating Easter! Nothing could stop the resurrection 2,000 years ago, and nothing can stop us from truly celebrating Jesus today. No, we will not be able to gather together physically, but even that can not stop the power of Jesus' resurrection from pouring forth from our lives. Please note the daily ways that we can connect and worship together.

When we can once again gather together physically, we will have a special celebration of Jesus Resurrection. We are Easter People! Easter is never limited to one day of the year.

Holy Communion will be celebrated during two of these events. I encourage you to use whatever you have on hand. Bread, crackers or anything similar. Juice, Water, or wine. I will say the words of institution. We will break bread together (even though we are separated physically). God's promise will be proclaimed. God's grace will reach you wherever you happen to be.



Alpine Academy
of Rockford
Faith • Family • Future

To say that the last few weeks have been challenging at school might sound like an understatement for some. At Alpine Academy I think challenging can be a good word to use. I also think that as I look at what's been done it's also been rewarding and fulfilling at the same time. What we've seen happen with our staff, our students, their families and our supportive church family is amazing!

In the past few weeks our staff has been able to transform education to outside the classroom and into students' homes. Teachers have provided instructional materials and remained connected to students through several means. Utilizing our postal mail, e-mail, telephone calls, text messages, FaceTime, Zoom Conference, educational apps, and a variety of other means to ensure learning takes place for the students at Alpine. Parents have become even more directly involved in student's instruction with one parent even telling me in a phone conversation, "I'm learning right along and realizing how much I've forgotten from grade school and it's fun to do together!" We are grateful for the relationships between our Teachers, Students and Parents that make getting through this time a little better.

We also have staff from the school and church who have worked hard to clean and disinfect the Church and School areas of our building. Special thanks to Tim Babcock, Jim Hill and Karl Okeson who have spent the most time ensuring that when all of us can gather in our building again we feel safe in a clean sterile environment. We definitely needed a deep cleaning in some areas of our building and so this has been a positive result during this period of time. Thank you to all of those who have contributed to this effort.

As a way to remain connected with students our staff have recorded videos reading books, singing, devotions, gym activities and fun ways to get the kids moving. Those videos are being shared daily on the Academy Facebook page as well as being uploaded to our YouTube Channel. Please stop by the Academy Facebook page to see them then like, comment and share to encourage our staff to continue this effort!

Our Principal, Bob McVinnie, and I will begin calling on parents to check in with parents in the coming days. We value the relationships that we have with our families and want to ensure they know we are here for them and their students. We want to thank them for their support as we all continue down this path together. I look forward to this opportunity to connect with these families.

On Sunday, March 29th we hosted an Alpine Academy Family Zoom. During this Zoom meeting we were able to allow staff and students to see one another over video to say hello and see how things were going. It was exciting to watch as students excitedly greeted their Teachers and how the connections with our staff were still vital in their eyes. We plan to continue to invite our Alpine Academy Family to join us on Sunday afternoons for an optional Zoom to connect and see one another.

For those who are wondering, I've had many people ask if we are canceling the Easter Egg Hunt. As of right now we have postponed the Egg Hunt. Currently we plan to host this event when we are able to gather again together. The goal is to use this to bring joy to the kids that participate when this ends and we can gather. We will still be collecting candy and prizes for when we can reschedule so if you'd like to donate please contact me and I'll arrange a way to drop off.

At Alpine we are Family and it is often most seen what Family is when we go through times like these. We need your support and appreciate your pray for everyone in our Alpine Family. We will continue to pray for you and will be excited to gather again together soon.

In Christ

Scott Dabson
Admissions Director
Alpine Academy



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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



Palm Sunday, April 5th: 9 AM, Facebook Live

We celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem with praise and palms.

Maundy Thursday: 7 PM, Facebook & YouTube

A service commemorating the Last Supper Jesus shared with the disciples.

Good Friday: 7 PM, Facebook & YouTube

This moving worship service marks the Passion of Christ and his love for us; dying for our sins on a cross.

Easter Sunday: 9 AM, Facebook Live

Jesus is risen! We celebrate the empty tomb! He has risen from the dead.

Our youth **Easter Breakfast** is cancelled. We may try to reschedule a breakfast for another time. If you would like to make a donation to our youth's work camp mission trip in the summer, it would be gratefully received.