



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 & 4th
Thursday via Zoom)

815-399-5013

In this issue:

Celebration Sunday Communion **3**

Thanksgiving Worship **3**

Facebook Live Prayer Requests **4**

Poinsettia Order Form **5**

From Pastor's Desk:

Monday, November 16, 2020

Volume 47, Issue 23

Discovering Joy in Our Relationship with God

Jesus once shared the following parable with his disciples, *"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it."* (Matt. 13:44-46). There are two important truths here that Jesus is trying to convey to his followers. 1) There is great Joy in being part of God's kingdom. 2) In order to fully experience this joy, we need to be all in. We cannot be part in and part out. Too often wind up only partially following Jesus. Only at times fully committed to living in God's Kingdom. The more we become devoted to living in God's kingdom (not just heaven, but God's reign that has already begun here on earth) the more we experience joy in our relationship with God. This joy is priceless, more valuable than anything life on earth can offer.

In our stewardship series "Celebrate Joy" we are also discovering that being joyful involves a choice. It is choosing to focus and believe in God's promises, choosing to notice and respond to God's blessings, and choosing to listen and follow God's leading. The wisdom and advice of this world tends to just distract and lead us away from God. This is especially true when dealing with suffering. Most advice from our culture teaches us to avoid, deny, and escape pain. God often leads us through pain to healing, freedom, and even deeper joy. Part of this choice then also involves being fully invested in God's kingdom. Choosing to give God's kingdom greater importance and value than our lives here on earth.

Here are some of the priceless joys that I experience as being part of God's kingdom.

1. The joy of being chosen to be part of God's team.
2. The joy of seeing someone released from the burdens that weigh them down.
3. The joy of witnessing someone experience true forgiveness and grace
4. The joy of knowing that all that is wrong right now is only temporary. This life is passing away and all of eternity awaits. Eternal life is what we were created and designed for, not the broken shadow of life that we experience now.
5. The joy of God's faithful presence and reassurance in my life. I have the most stable of foundations – Jesus' love and faith - to sustain me.

BY THE NUMBERS

Attendance 11/1/20	No in-person worship	Attendance 11/8/20	No in-person worship
Online Views	81	Online views	62
Required total receipts weekly..... \$8,215.67			
Gen Fund 11/1/20	\$7,363.00	Gen Fund 11/8/20	\$6,990.00
Forward in Faith	\$2,725.00	Forward in Faith	\$1,945.00
Surplus/Deficit	+ \$1,872.33	Surplus/Deficit	+ \$720.33
Festival	\$290.00	53 rd /54 th week	\$1,040.00
Surplus/Deficit YTD..... - \$41,254.60 (10/31/20)			



Pray for Alpine members:

Pat Anderson, Vince Bertolotto, Tim Beynon, Rick Bried, Cindy Bulthaus, Tim & JoAnn Christiansen, Pat Christiansen, Scott Christiansen, Ernest & Mary DeNale, Doris Fransen, Marybeth Gillette, Louise Hemenway, Rich & Jan Hill, Jim Hill, Peggy Lillegaard, Norma Lucas, Marguerite Lusth, Valerie Miller, Ron & Jan Pauly, Marge Pearson, Steve Shoudy, JR Stropes, Melissa (Bukowski) Stucky & family, Karen Bateman Swanson, Pat Turmo 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, Judy Osiwalla, Tom Rogers, Bob Schult, Jeremy Sturges, Don Tennant, Penny Wendling, all those on the front line and those affected with Covid-19.

All in the Family

Birthday thanks came in from **Pam Hemenway, Violet Peterson, Dick Barton, Craig Shelton and Barb Shelton. Kathy Cordonnier** would like to thank Kathy Mund for all her hard work making and delivering baked goods to her and others during this time. **Norma Lucas** would like to thank her family at Alpine for the beautiful flowers she received and all of the kindness shown to her when she has needed it most.

Worship Schedule :

Sunday Worship:

8:00 AM Traditional Worship (suspended)
10:00 AM Praise Worship/ Facebook Live (in-person suspended)

*Children's Church on hiatus, monthly Grab & Go packets will be available when we return to in-person worship

Academy Chapel: 2:15 PM every Tuesday

Rejoicing Spirits: Every 2nd & 4th Thursday, via Zoom, 6:00 PM (This service is for those with developmental disabilities, their families, caregivers, and others.)

Our in person **Worship, Bible Studies, Women's Circles, Adult Forums & Men's Breakfasts** will be on hold during the Covid-19 Phase 4 until further notice.

Wednesday Evening Prayer meeting: Facebook Live at 7 PM



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

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

November 22nd—**Martha Carlson; Scott & Kathy Christiansen; Ted, Tiffany & Ben Croisant; and Roger Bastian.**

November 29th—**Jim & Jan Anderson; Diana Sundeen; and Taylor Boustead.**



Alpine Schedule

Thursday, November 19th—Council Meeting, 7 PM
Sunday, November 22nd—Celebration Sunday, Facebook Live, 10 AM
Sunday, November 22nd—Communion Blessing, Door C, 11 AM—12:30 PM
Wednesday, November 25th—Thanksgiving Worship, Facebook Live, 7 PM
Sunday November 29th—First Sunday of Advent

From the SCRIP Desk:

Please check your Culver's cards. We received a batch of cards from Culver's that were not activated. If you have a card, please visit www.Culvers.com, scroll to the bottom of the page, click on gift cards, and check your balance. If it says that the card is invalid, it was one of the non-activated cards. Culver's has issued us another set of activated cards to replace the bad ones. Just bring in your invalid card and get a replacement. If you have no means to check your cards, Lynn will be glad to check them for you in the office. (Deb Geeser)
KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP

With the recent changes to the Covid-19 mandates, the executive committee has decided to suspended in-person worship for the next few Sundays. We know that this is hard for many of us but we need to keep all of our members and staff safe. Please be patient as we all navigate this trying time together. We will resume as soon as we are able to do so safely. Please watch your email or online on our Facebook page for any changes to our worship services.

Celebrating Joy: Our 2021 pledge cards have been mailed out. Please let the church office know if you did not receive yours. As we gather these financial pledges we are able to begin the process of planning finances for 2021. Please prayerfully consider your giving to Alpine. We thank you for your support of Alpine both financially and spiritually.

Celebration Sunday is November 22nd, we would like to host an in-person communion. From **11 AM to 12:30 PM** you may drive up to door "C" receive communion, receive a blessing from Pastor Dan, drop off your pledge cards if you have not already mailed them in, and receive a copy of the Advent devotional for this year. We hope this will be a way to connect since we have been apart for so long.

Altar Guild are collecting orders for the **Christmas Poinsettias**. Remember your loved ones who have passed or celebrate an event as we decorate the altar with these flowers. The cost will be \$12 per plant (red only). An order form is on pg. 5. We will collect orders through Tuesday, December 1st. (Laurel McVinnie)



Thanksgiving is almost here. On Wednesday evening, **November 25th,** we will post a **Thanksgiving Eve worship on Facebook Live at 7 PM.** You can worship together with your family and share our service with your friends. Even though this year has been hard, we can give thanks to God the many blessings he has bestowed upon us. We especially thank God for the gift of technology and those who understand it so that we have been able to stay connected in the past few months.

Sunday, November 29th is the **1st Sunday of Advent.** The Worship & Music Committee has chosen the Advent devotional "***It's a Wonderful Life in Christ***" by Michael Hoy. Rediscover the joy and blessings of daily life with this devotional booklet centered around the beloved film, *It's a Wonderful Life*. Copies will be handed out at our in-person communion on Sunday, November 22nd as well as in the bin outside door "F" and from Lynn in the office.

The new issue of **Living Lutheran** is in and ready for you to share with your friends and family. In this month's lead story, "Together at the table; Taste and see", readers share their recipes and their faith stories; a fitting theme for this Thanksgiving.

It is that time of year when **Social Ministries** begins collecting for the **Holiday Food Baskets**. With the pandemic we have had to make some changes. This year we will be collecting items every Wednesday in the barrel which will be placed outside door "C" as we did for our summer collections. Here is a list of items needed: instant mashed potatoes, Stove Top Stuffing, canned green beans, canned corn, dry gravy packets or canned gravy, canned cranberry sauce, canned fruit, and Jell-O. Additional items that can be donated for the families are: cereal, macaroni & cheese or other dry pastas, canned soups, canned ravioli/spaghetti, canned meats—tuna, Ramen Noodles, and other non-perishable non-expired foods. As always, money to purchase the foods can also be donated. Please make a notation for the baskets on your check. We thank you again for your generosity in helping others. (John Linde)

Summit Schedule: We will not be sending out a Summit the week of Thanksgiving. Here are the next two dates that you should receive it in the mail; December 7th and December 21st. This will take us through to next year.



Children's Church will be on hiatus until later this year. We will evaluate our safety situation as time passes and update everyone.
 With the recent mandates in place, our Grab-n-Go bags will be on hold until we can worship in-person again as well.
 We hope this will be soon.

***With the ever changing mandates it is important that you receive our emails or notices on Facebook to know the most up to date information. If you would like to add your email to our list please notify Lynn in the office. You may find us on Facebook by searching Alpine Lutheran Church of Rockford. Like the page and then turn on notifications for new posts.**

A new **Those Who Serve** schedule (Covid version) has been emailed out. Please note that it was created as if we have in-person worship. If we are still not back together, the usher/greeter is not needed.

During our **Live Facebook** worship services, you may make **prayer requests** in the comment section. These requests will be collected and given to Pastor Dan to pray during the Prayers of the Church. We hope to get to all of the requests each service.

A **2021 Altar Flower and Eternal Candle** chart will be up soon. 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. Since we are not currently worshipping in-person, you may call either Laurel, 815-980-5326, or Lynn in the office, 815-399-5013, to sign-up.

ATTENTION SNOWBIRDS:

Please be sure to notify the church office when you will be leaving and coming back from your winter get-aways. The church is charged \$.55 every time a Summit is returned for "Temporarily Away". Please provide a stop & start date so we can get you back on the list when you return. If you have a forwarding address, we can continue to send you your Summit while you are away or you can look for it online.



Alpine Academy
of Rockford
Faith • Family • Future

At the Academy our holiday season is in full swing! We've just completed our Veterans Program and are now preparing for Thanksgiving activities as well as our Christmas Program and all the activities that go with it. It's going to be an exciting season for us and we hope you find time to enjoy this season along with us.

Our students did a fantastic job celebrating our Veterans. While this year's program was virtual our students put in a lot of effort in order to do a great job for our Veterans. Even better, if you missed the program Live you can find it on either the school's Facebook or YouTube pages.

As we now turn our attention to Thanksgiving we are focused on all that we can be thankful for in 2020. This sure has been a trying year for all of us. We have a turkey that we've named Thunder who is hanging out in our hallway by the school office. The thing is Thunder is missing his feathers and we know it's going to get cold. We need help getting him some feathers. So we have some paper feathers here at school that we'd be happy to provide if you wouldn't mind decorating and writing on them what you are thankful for. We know we all have so much to still be thankful for in 2020 even with all the craziness. So contact us at the school if you'd like to help and we will arrange a way to get you some feathers. We'd like to have Thunder full of "Thankful Feathers" by Nov. 23rd.

We've also begun working on our Christmas Program for this year. This program will also be virtual so be sure to Like us on Facebook and subscribe to our YouTube channel. Our Christmas program will air on Facebook and YouTube on Dec. 17th at 6:00pm and I promise you won't want to miss out.

Overall we have a busy time coming this season but so much planned to share all that God has given us with all our Alpine Family and the community around us. I wish I could share it all now but I can't wait to share all of the holiday happenings from our Academy with you over the next couple months!

In Christ
Scott Dabson
Operations Director
Alpine Academy



Alpine Altar Guild Christmas Poinsettia Garden 2020

Alpine Altar Guild members will be taking orders for RED poinsettias only. Payment must be received at time of ordering. Please turn in your order by Tuesday, December 1st. The plant order must be placed with the florist that week. **The cost is \$12 per plant.** Please fill out one form per plant.

NOTE: You may pick up your plant after the Christmas Eve worship services, times TBD.

Donor name

(Please print name)

Remembering

(Please print name)

Will take _____ Cash/Check # _____

SWEDISH KORV SAUSAGE ORDER SLIP

PICK UP @ Zion Lutheran Church
925 5th Avenue, Rockford



NAME: _____

TELEPHONE #: _____ Email _____

Quantity/Pounds of KORV Sausage: _____ @ \$6.50 PER POUND

Pick-up Date Thurs- Dec 3rd

Pick- up Time: (9:00am-3:00 pm)

To place an order call 815-962-4279, email Ralmmail@aol.com
or mail this slip to RALM, 200 N First Street, Rockford, IL, 61107.

Thank you for your order of Tabor's Swedish Korv Sausage
Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries

In korv space, cover your face.



Alpine Lutheran Church
5001 Forest View Ave. Rockford, IL 61108
alpinelutheran@comcast.net
www.alpinelutheran.com

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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



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

THOSE WHO SERVE :

***Please note: In-Person Worship is suspended until further notice. Please watch your email or look for a post on Facebook as to when in-person worship will return.**

Facebook Live 10:00 AM
Sunday, November 22, 2020

Remote Lector: Allen Neumann
Praise Singer: Chuck & Lynn Valentine

Facebook Live 10:00 AM
Sunday, November 29, 2020

Remote Lector: Craig Shelton
Praise Singer: Jaime Doubek



A Prayer for Thanksgiving

Oh Lord, with humble hearts we pray thy blessing this Thanksgiving Day and ask that at table place, where grateful folk say words of grace, that Thou will come to share the yield thy bounty gave to farm and field. We pray thy love will bless, oh Lord, each hearth, each home, each festive board; and that Thy peace will come to stay where candles glow, Thanksgiving Day.

— Brian F. King