



Special points of interest:

Sunday Worship
 8:00 AM Traditional
 10:00 AM Praise
 10:00 AM Facebook Live

Academy Chapel
 Every Tuesday, 2:15 PM
 YouTube

Rejoicing Spirits
 6:00 PM (2nd & 4th
 Thursday via Zoom)

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Monday, March 8, 2021

Volume 48, Issue 5

From Pastor's Desk:

Going Against the Grain.

Have you ever felt that living the Christian life was little like swimming against a strong current? Sometimes it can appear like most of what God asks of us goes against what everyone else is doing. We are not supposed to get drunk, have sex before marriage, cheat, lie, steal, do anything to get ahead, manipulate others, become jealous, judge our neighbors, etc.... Why is it so important that we be so different? Isn't it ok just to fit in and not get noticed every once and a while? Many of us know the answer to those questions (at least in theory). God doesn't want us to be different in so much as he wants us to live the kind of lives we were created for. We are not supposed to sin because sin destroys our lives, relationships, homes and just about everything else (despite how glamorous sin is portrayed on TV). Although we know all this in our heads, sometimes it can be hard to make the right choice; to do what is right, to sacrifice the pleasure of now for the good life that comes later. One of the keys to becoming more like Christ is to make good choices. To choose to model Jesus' character even when it goes against the way we are accustomed to living. But to make that choice we must have a greater desire to be like Jesus than to just fit in and be like everyone else. We need to see both what we are missing and where our choices will lead us.

This is one of the main reasons why God allows us to bear the consequences of our actions, while at the same time giving us glimpses of how wonderful it is to have God in our lives. We need to taste, touch, see, hear, and smell God - so that it (the experience) will create a hunger in us for more. Then we need to allow that hunger to lead us towards a greater experience of God and not some worldly substitute. This can be hard. This will require that we make tough choices. Lent provides us the space to make such choices. The contemplative time allows us to sow down, hear, and respond to the leading of the Holy Spirit. All the while keeping in mind our destination, Easter, and the resurrection power it brings. Because we know we cannot do this on our own. We need resurrection power to course through our lives, changing us as it changes the world.

Lenten Quotes

"Lent is a time of going very deeply into ourselves... What is it that stands between us and God? Between us and our brothers and sisters? Between us and life, the life of the Spirit? Whatever it is, let us relentlessly tear it out, without a moment's hesitation." - Catherine Doherty

"God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy." - Pope Francis

"As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst... He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you." - Teresa of Calcutta

BY THE NUMBERS

2/17/21 Ash Wednesday	45 Cars (approx. 65 people)	2/24/21 Zoom	9
Online Views	42		
2/21/21	20	2/28/21	15
2/7 Online views	87	2/14 Online views	62

Required total receipts weekly.....\$7,902.73

Gen Fund 2/7/21	\$930.00	Gen Fund 2/14/21	\$2,775.00
Forward in Faith	\$365.00	Forward in Faith	\$920.00
Surplus/Deficit	-\$6,377.73	Surplus/Deficit	-\$4,137.73
Unexpected Blessing	\$60.00	Festival	\$245.00

*Please note, the giving amounts at the beginning of the year include several full year pledge receipts.

Surplus/Deficit YTD..... + \$13,000.27 (1/31/21)



Pray for Alpine members:

Pat Anderson, Linda Becker, Vince Bertolotto, Tim Beynon, Rick Bried, Cindy Bulthaus, Chris & Pat Christiansen, Scott Christiansen, Ernest & Mary DeNale, Doris Fransen, Marybeth Gillette, Louise Hemenway, Rich & Jan Hill, Jim Hill, Dave & Peggy Lillegaard, Norma Lucas, Marguerite Lusth, Pastor Rick Meier, Valerie Miller, Ron & Jan Pauly, Marge Pearson, Steve Shoudy, JR Stropes, Melissa (Bukowski) Stucky & family, Gyla Tomlinson, Pat Turmo and Darrold & Sharron 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, Tina Randolph, 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 **Jeanne Tengren** and **Lynn Valentine**. Our condolences go out to the family and friends of **Marguerite Lusth** who passed away at the age of 104, just a littler over a month before her 105th birthday. We also share our love and sympathy with **Richard Dowling** and his family. Richard's brother passed away recently.

Worship Schedule :

Sunday Worship:

8:00 AM Traditional Worship (starting March 7th)
10:00 AM Praise Worship/ YouTube-Facebook Live (in-person and online)

*Children's Church on hiatus, monthly Grab & Go packets will be available

Academy Chapel: 2:15 PM every Tuesday via Academy YouTube channel

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

Bible Studies, Women's Circles, Adult Forums & Men's Breakfasts On hold. Watch for an announcement for a Zoom Bible Study starting soon!

Wednesday Evening Prayer meeting: On pause through Lent

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.**

March 14th —Bob & Violet Peterson; John & Kim Gustafson; Kelly Gustafson; Gregory Garrett; and James & Noreen Christiansen.

March 21st —Janet Gentry; George Wanfalt; Megan, Merrick & Cooper Hill; and Greg & Barb Lee.



LENTEN CALENDAR

Wednesday, March 10th—Virtual Soup Supper and Lenten Worship, Zoom, 6 PM

Thursday, March 11th—Rejoicing Spirits via Zoom, 6 PM

Sunday, March 14th—4th Sunday in Lent, 8 & 10 AM

Wednesday, March 17th—Virtual Soup Supper and Lenten Worship, Zoom, 6 PM

Sunday, March 21st—5th Sunday in Lent, 8 & 10 AM



The **2021 Church Council** is having difficulty making contacts to fill church council vacancies. We need your help. If you are interested in serving on the church council and are willing to serve, please let us know by calling the church office. (DiAnne Beynon)



We have returned to two worship services; **8 AM, traditional and 10 AM, praise worship style**. We thank you for your patience during this very difficult time and can't wait to see everyone again. We will be taking temperatures for those in attendance and a face covering will be required at all times.

The **Congregational Resourcing Event** will be held via Zoom this year. It will be on Saturday, March 13th from 8:30 AM to 2 PM. Registration for the event opened on February 1st and will run until March 7th. Many workshops will be offered including Stewardship, Evangelism, Social Justice and many others. For more information on the event and to register online please visit <https://nisynod.org/annual-events/cre>. This event is open to all church members.



Easter will be here before you know it and it is time to make your orders for our **Easter Glory Garden**. An order form can be found on page 5 of this Summit and available from Lynn in the office. Laurel McVinnie will also take orders over the phone if you would like to order that way. Her contact info is located on the order form.

Do you give electronically? We have envelopes for celebration Sundays, Lent, Advent, etc. made up for you. You may pick up a batch from the counter in the coat room. Thank you for your support of Alpine Lutheran. (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)



Join us every Wednesday in Lent at 6 PM for a **Virtual Soup Supper and Lenten Worship** on Zoom. A link will be emailed out for everyone to join in fellowship as we enjoy some soup and then enjoy a Holden Evening Prayer worship service. The link will be the same every week. You will be invited to a "waiting room" and then be accepted into the "meeting". We provide the link, you provide the soup.

From the SCRIP Desk:

Did you notice the sun has been appearing more and the snow is slowly going away? If you have you know what that means - Spring is coming along with Spring cleanup. Start stocking up on yard bags, rakes, and other essential items to make your outdoor clean up easier. Remember SCRIP carries many of the home improvement stores gift cards such as Home Depot, Menards and Lowes. Maybe you are not ready to think about spring cleanup and are focusing more on getting ready for Easter. You know that SCRIP carries many of the craft stores gift cards such as Joanne and Michael's, but did you know SCRIP also has Hallmark gift cards. Hallmark you can get your Easter cards, decorations and a few treats if you feel hungry while shopping. You can always drop your order off at the SCRIP on Sunday and pick up you order the following Sunday. If you can't wait that long for your SCRIP cards call the church office and schedule a time to pick up your order with Lynn. The best way to drop off you order is to place your order and payment in an envelope and place in the box on the SCRIP kiosk when you walk in or out of church. The following week your envelope with your order in it will on the kiosk for you to pick up. (Deb Geeser)

KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP

Memorial Committee Note: The Memorial Board in the Memorial Lounge has been updated with the names of those who have left memorials to Alpine in the past year. Those contributors are: Bettie Everson; Church Gentry; Lillian Hagen; Bert Johnson; Rev. Dr. Linda Kersten; Jack Lucas; Curt Moen; Marian Olson and Irving Perala.

**We Thank Our
2021 Council Members**

**President: Scott Dabson, Vice-President: Pam Lojewski,
Secretary: DiAnne Beynon, Treasurer: Allen Geeser**

Christian Ed/ Youth

Mari Hanson, John Linde

Finance/ Stewardship

Al Geeser, Scott Christiansen

Social Ministry

John Linde, Mike Schultz

Alpine Connections

DiAnne Beynon

Property

Scott Dabson, Al Geeser

Worship & Music

Pam Lojewski, Bob McVinnie

Vitality

Scott Dabson, Pastor Dan Wynard

On **Sunday, March 14th**, Katie's Cup will hold the fundraiser "**Pie It Forward**". Order a pie for Pi day ($\pi = 3.14$) while you raise money for Katie's Cup. The pies will be from "By The Dozen Bakery" in Rockford and the "Norske Nook" in De Forest, WI. You can order your pies by downloading the flyer from the Katie's Cup website or their Facebook Page. The orders are due by the end of February. You can also "Pie It Forward" and give someone else a pie when you pick yours up on March 14th!

Alpine Lutheran & the Alpine Academy are hosting an **Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 3rd** and we need your help. We are looking for donations of candy and gift items (both for the eggs and door prizes) by March 28th. If you are able to help, please see Scott Dabson.

The March issue of "**Living Lutheran**" is here. The feature article for this month is entitled "So More People May Know the Way of Jesus: ELCA Implements Future Church Design." The author shares an interview with Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton; Phil Hirsch, exec. dir. of ELCA Christian Community and Leadership; Mikka McCracken, exec. dir. of ELCA Innovation; and Bill Horne, ELCA vice president. Copies will be on the Care & Concern counter as well as in the box outside of door F.

Communication with our congregation is very important during these ever changing times. If you have had **any changes** to your **address, phone or email**, please contact the office so that we may update our information. We appreciate all of our members and want to make sure we can keep in touch whether in person or via other communication methods.

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. If you 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.



Alpine Academy
of Rockford
Faith • Family • Future

Welcome to ELCA Lutheran Schools Week! This week at Alpine Academy we are celebrating Lutheran Schools week along with over 1,300 Schools and Early Learning Centers. There are over 150,000 students being served in ELCA Schools and Centers across the U.S. Please join with us in the celebration this week.

As we go through this next week students and staff at the Academy will be invited to wear colors reflecting the Lutheran Rose. We will begin on Monday March 8th when we will wear Gold. The Lutheran Rose is surrounded by a Gold Circle to remind us of heaven's endless joys. We will wear Gold (or yellow) to remind us of heaven's joys.

On Tuesday we will wear Blue. The background of the Lutheran Rose is Blue to remind us of the sky and the hope that we will one day meet Jesus in heaven. We will wear Blue on Tuesday to remind us to place our faith on and set our sights toward meeting Jesus in heaven.

On Wednesday we will wear White. The rose petals of our Lutheran Rose are white. We will wear White to remind our faith gives us joy, comfort and peace. White is to remind us of the peace like the angels enjoy.

On Thursday we will wear Red. Red is the color of the heart near the center of the Lutheran Rose. We will wear Red to remind us that we live because Jesus shed His blood for us. Our faith in Christ Jesus has saved us.

On Friday we will wear Black. The cross at the center of the Lutheran Rose is black. We will wear Black to remind us we are saved from sin because Jesus died on the cross for us.

We hope you will join us in celebrating ELCA Lutheran Schools Week with us this year. If you wear your color each day please send us your pictures and we'll share those with ours each day on our Facebook page. This will be a fantastic opportunity to celebrate together as one Alpine Family. You can e-mail any pictures to info@alpineacademyofrockford.com.

Thank you for supporting Alpine Academy!

Scott Dabson
Operations Director
Alpine Academy



EASTER GLORY GARDEN

Alpine's Altar Guild once again brings you the Easter Glory Garden. It is a celebration of the glorious Resurrection of Our Lord. Please be a part of this beautiful creation. We will be using lilies & tulips. Cost of each plant is \$12.00. Altar Guild will be selling these plants through March 14th. Please include payment with your order form. Flowers may be taken after the 10:00 Easter Service.

White
Lilies _____

Red
Tulip _____

Yellow
Tulip _____

Will take flowers Y or N (please circle)

Donor name

(Please print name)

Remembering

(Please print name)

Amount Paid \$ _____ Cash _____ Check # _____

Laurel McVinnie will take your orders over the phone if you would like.
Her contact number is 815-980-5326.



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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

THOSE WHO SERVE:

Sun., March 14, 2021

Ushers: (8:00) Gwyn Brechtel, David DeNale
(10:00) DiAnne Beynon, Mari Hanson
Remote Lector: Terry Hodges
Cantor: Carla Phillips
Praise Singer: Jaime Doubek

Sun., March 21, 2021

Ushers: (8:00) Jack & Carla Phillips
(10:00) DiAnne Beynon, Marge Rakoczy
Remote Lector: Lynn Valentine
Cantor: Becky Toro
Praise Singers: Chuck & Lynn Valentine

Thought for the Week:

*Remember the moments
of the past.
Look forward to the promise
of the future.
But most of all,
celebrate the present,
for it is precious.*

Spring Forward Sunday, March 14, 2021

