



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)

In this issue:

AlpineFest Thank You **3**

Email Subscription **3**

Rally Day **4**

Crop Hunger Walk **4**

Monday, August 30, 2021

Volume 48, Issue 16

From Pastor's Desk:

Reconnecting With God: Summer 2021 Sermon takeaways

Growing in our faith during the Covid-19 pandemic has been a challenge. With so many supports, activities, freedoms etc. having been temporarily taken away, many of us have felt distanced from God and each other. Isolation is tough and over time it can eat away at our faith. Our theme for worship this summer has been "Reconnecting with God." During worship this summer we have been reminded repeatedly that although we feel alone, God does not abandon us. Jesus was never alone, even when he was being tempted in the wilderness. Learning to sense how God is always present in our lives - despite the feelings of isolation that can overwhelm us - has been a big part of what we have learned this summer. Staying connected to God helps to nurture and grow our faith. Here are some more of our takeaways (remember takeaways are the Biblical truths we discover in worship that we can hook our faith on, take home with us, and put into practice throughout the week).

- Reconnecting with God involves letting go of false beliefs that imprison us.
- Reconnecting with God involves focusing on who we are called to be and not allowing other's jealousy or resentment to distract us.
- Reconnecting with God involves trusting God to build a new family around us.
- In your desperation... Focus on Jesus. Ignore the voices that tell you it's foolish
- Find a way to touch Jesus. Encountering Jesus melts away the barriers between you and God.
- Reconnecting with God involves choosing to trust Jesus and not the stories the world tells us.
- Building trust in Jesus and others increases our experience of God.
- Reconnecting with God involves speaking out against injustice and abuse.
- MLK quote: "A man dies when he refuses to take a stand for that which is true." An appropriate addendum is, "A person dies when they are silent about the things that matter to God."
- Being a shepherd connects us to God
- Sharing the hope we have, connects us to God
- Reconnecting with God means reconnecting with God's people.
- Look for people who are feeling isolated like you and invite them to connect.
- Receiving Communion connects us to Jesus.
- Allowing our personal fictions to be dismantled as we follow Jesus, connects us to God.
- Remaining loyal to Jesus – keeps us connected to God.

BY THE NUMBERS

8/15/21	32+37	69	8/22/21	34+37	71
8/15 Online views		14	8/22 Online views		20

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

Gen Fund 8/15/21	\$7,820.00	Gen Fund 8/22/21	\$1,727.00
Forward in Faith	\$1,903.00	Forward in Faith	\$505.00
Surplus/Deficit	+\$2,585.27	Surplus/Deficit	-\$5,430.73
53/54.....		\$765.00	

Surplus/Deficit YTD..... + \$4,613.81 (7/31/21)



Pray for Alpine members:

Pat Anderson, Linda Becker, Vince Bertolotto, Rick Bried, Cindy Bulthaus, Chris Christiansen, Ernest & Mary DeNale, Marybeth Gillette, Joan Greeny, Louise Hemenway, Rich & Jan Hill, Norma Lucas, Pastor Rick Meier, Valerie Miller, Jan Pauly, Marge Pearson, JR Stropes, Melissa (Bukowski) Stucky & family, and Pat Turmo.

Pray for our friends and family of Alpine:

Sally Atkinson, Kim Braun, Linda Conness, Linda Fry, Jerome Gill, Daniel Hendrickson, Debra Johnson, Larry Kagel, Kathleen Lovins, Todd McDonald, Maryann Moorhouse, 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 **Sharon Walker** and **Pr. Eric Hanson**. **Bailey Strunk** sends in her thanks for the scholarship she received and for all that Alpine does for the community. **John Linde** would like to thank everyone for the altar flowers he recently received.

Worship Schedule :

Sunday Worship:

8:00 AM Traditional Worship (in-person)

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 Alpine Academy of Rockford 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: Tuesday Men's Bible Study, Sunrise, **7:00 AM**

Wednesday Evening Prayer meeting: every Wednesday on Facebook, 7 PM (none during summer)

Pastor Dan's office hours: Mondays 9:00-12:00; Tuesdays 9:00 – 3:00; Wednesdays 9:00 – 3:00; and Thursdays 1:00 – 3:00. He is also available at other times by appointment.



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.**

September 5th — Chuck & Lynn Valentine; Cary Ralston; Sandy, Shannon, & Rachel Cooley; and Richard, Connie & Tim Dowling.

September 12th — Russ & Nancy Hornbeck; Jan Galster; Bob & Lori Fanello; and Mike, Deb, Chris & Tanner LaFew.



Tuesday, August 31st—Men's Bible Study, Sunrise Restaurant, 7 AM * **Note time change**

Thursday, September 5th—Property, 6:30 PM

Tuesday, September 7th—Bell Choir resumes, 6 PM

Tuesday, September 7th—Chancel Choir resumes, 7:15 PM



*"It is possible
to move a mountain
by carrying away
small stones."*

-Chinese Proverb



Calling all who love music! We want to start up our choirs again on Tuesday, September 7th. Our **Bell Choir** meets at 6 PM in the sanctuary and our **Chancel Choir** meets at 7 PM in the choir room. Please see Richard for any additional information. All are welcome to join us!

From the SCRIP Desk:

Are you finished with your school shopping? Did your kids or grandkids grow out of their school clothes from last year? SCRIP has cards for Ross Dress for Less, Kohl's and others to make your shopping easier. You could even treat them to pancakes after your shopping is done at IHOP. We have cards for there too. Stop at the kiosk and pick up an order form to see all the cards that can help you shop and earn money for the church, school or even a camper's account. (Deb Geeser)

KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP

Get Involved in Alpine! Do you know it takes many volunteers to run our worship services, run our special events, help with keeping our facility looking nice, and to do many of the other tasks to run Alpine? We are always looking for more of those volunteers. Do you like to talk to people or are you more of a "back scenes" kind of person? Please share your interests with **Laurel McVinnie**, our volunteer coordinator, and she can match you up with an area where we need volunteers.

Children's Church would like to look at starting back up some time this fall or winter. We need volunteers to teach during the 10 AM worship service. If you are interested in helping, please talk to Mari Hanson. In the mean time, our **Grab-N-Go bags** will continue to be available on the table in Memorial Lounge.

Alpine Academy will be hosting their **Fall Craft & Vendor Fair** on Saturday, October 23rd. We are looking for more vendors to participate. Do you know of anyone who may want to have a booth/table to sell their crafts or home based business items? Please contact Jody Dabson at 815-227-8894 or Mrs.dabson@alpineacademyofrockford.com.



Many thanks to everyone who helped make **AlpineFest 2021** such a big success. We had a great attendance throughout the day. We enjoyed music from several musicians, food (thanks to all the cooks and bakers), games for kids and adults, a train, a car rally, and fellowship with both the Academy families and our neighbors around us. This event has become a great way to bring us all together as a community of Christ and as our mission statement says "share God's love."

It was announced at the AlpineFest that we have collected and received pledges in the amount of **\$30,000 plus** towards the **Boiler Fund** (not including the matching funds). We asked, you responded; **way to go Alpiners!** The installation process will begin soon and we will have a toasty building come winter. We are still accepting any donations for any issues that may arise from the installation and other necessary projects. Many thanks to our anonymous doner who provided the matching funds which encouraged us in meeting our goal.

Would you like to receive the **email reminders** for events and information sent out through our automated email system? Did you inadvertently unsubscribe to the emails you were receiving? An **email subscription button** was recently added to our website so that you may subscribe (or re-subscribe). Just visit our website at www.alpinelutheran.com, click on the pull down menu "Welcome", and click on "Summit". At the bottom of the page you will find a button to subscribe to our emails. We send out emails when we have new posts to our Summit, when we share sympathy for members who have died, when content on weekly sermons has been updated, and when we have special events at the church or in our community.

Thanks to a memorial bequeath from the **Curt Moen Family**, a new **key fob system** has been installed at the church. You may also have noticed 2 Ring doorbells on our 2 main doors. Both the fob system and doorbells will allow better security to our building and help facilitate meetings and rentals of our building spaces. We will need everyone to turn in any outside door keys that you have so you may be issued a key fob. Please turn them in by **September 12th**. (Lynn Valentine)



Alpine Academy
of Rockford
Faith • Family • Future

At Alpine Academy our school year began successfully on August 18th! Much like the beginning of last year our school looks a little different again this year. Covid is still among chief concern and we have a developed plan to follow. We're excited to have students back in the building learning in our classrooms.

I look forward to this school year allowing us to safely return to some of the various activities we had offered in the past. I will be working along with our CPTO to develop a plan to bring back our Fall Fest. Fall Fest has always been an event our students and families looked forward to each year. This event have been followed the past several years by our annual Trunk or Treat. We will also be working toward developing plans to return other events throughout the year ensuring we pay due respect to students health and safety.

Mrs. Jody Dabson our Kindergarten Teacher is busy planning our Fall Vendor Craft Show that will take place on October 23rd. She is currently looking for Crafters and Vendors for this years show. If you would like to participate as a Vendor or Crafter at this years event please contact her by email at mrs.dabson@alpineacademyofrockford.com or you are welcome to call the school for more information.

If you are looking for ways to help us at Alpine Academy please contact me at school or any time you see me at church. We can always use volunteers and are even currently looking to fill a couple part time positions. I'd also be happy to talk to you about how you can help students attend Alpine Academy through the Invest In Kids Act and Empower Illinois. We currently have 23 students on our waitlist seeking scholarship opportunities with Empower Illinois. If you're interested in learning how to donate please contact me at school.

This is going to be a great school year and I am excited by our increased enrollment this year. I look forward to sharing our total enrollment numbers soon as we continue to wind down our current enrollment. Please continue to pray for our school, our staff, our students and their families.

In Christ
Scott Dabson
Director
Alpine Academy



Sunday, September 12th is Rally Day!

To help us rally our faith we ask everyone to wear your favorite team jersey. Bring your backpacks, tool belts, tablets, briefcases, stethoscopes, anything you use in your daily activities. We will be doing a blessing over these items as we begin a new fall season.

Snowbirds: A new **Those Who Serve** schedule will be started soon. Please contact either Laurel or Lynn as to when you will be gone so that our schedule can be as complete as possible. Thank you (Laurel McVinnie)

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 by the coffee. As of the writing of this Summit we have no one signed up past August. (Laurel McVinnie)

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.



A Prayer for Our Teachers

Dear God,

As countless teachers begin to prepare for a new school year ahead, grant them an abundance of Your wisdom. Prepare their hearts to welcome and love our loved ones, and may we make sure to show them love and respect in return. Give them grace as they help students who aren't thriving, courage to say what needs to be said, tools and knowledge on how and when to speak love, and strength when they feel weak. When they feel unseen, remind them that no moment goes unnoticed. They are shaping the future in one million small - yet incredibly important - ways every day. We are overwhelmed with gratitude for the gift of learning they share with our children. Bless them, Lord, and may they see even just a glimpse of how their faithfulness will forever impact generations to come.

Amen.

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the Lord's work, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:58

Now if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God—who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly—and it will be given to him.
James 1:5

(by Kaitlyn—Dayspring Cards)



2021 HYBRID CROP HUNGER WALK

This year the Rockford Area CROP Hunger Walk will be a hybrid event. This means we will gather again at 1 p.m. in the Riverfront Museum Park **Sunday, October 17th**, IF Covid conditions allow. OR congregations may hold their own virtual walks. Last year \$41,455 was raised. Looking to make a difference in our local community and in communities worldwide, the Rockford CROP Hunger Walk has set a goal of 200 Walkers and hopes to raise \$45,000 to help end hunger and poverty through long-term sustainable approaches to significantly reduce hunger. A portion of the funds raised will go to the Greater Rockford Pantry Coalition. Billions of neighbors around the world have to walk to live. Millions of Americans must rely on local food pantries, food banks and meal sites. From combating droughts in Nicaragua to providing agricultural training in Indonesia to stocking shelves in hundreds of food pantries across the United States, CROP Hunger Walks are a part of Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty. Please join in this critical endeavor. Learn how or make a donation at www.crophungerwalk.org/rockfordil.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

For over two decades, the ELCA has maintained a presence in southern Haiti through support for agricultural and sustainable development work. To continue our engagement with those communities, **Lutheran Disaster Response** is collaborating with partner organizations in the communities to meet relief needs, including food, water, medical supplies and temporary shelter needed after the earthquake and recent storms. In the future, other areas of support will include psychosocial care, water and sanitation, and creating sustainable livelihoods through agriculture and livestock. We also stand with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Haiti as it assesses damage and impacts on churches and church life. To give to this current need please visit ELCA.org and click on the disaster relief banner.



Carpenter's Place Celebrate Success event will once again take place virtually, **Tuesday, September 21st**, beginning at 12 PM. We invite you to add this information to your calendar and join us as we celebrate progress made over the past year. Hear personal, heart-warming stories of success and learn how we are continuing our mission. The virtual event will be broadcasted on our website carpentersplace.org. A silent auction will be held virtually as well. Bidding will open September 15th at 8 AM. More information on the auction to come.



Katie's Choice Book Club meets every 2nd Thursday of the month at 10 AM. The book for discussion in September is "Saving CeeCee Honeycutt" by Beth Hoffman. "Anyone in need of a southern-girl-power fix will find (Saving CeeCee Honeycutt) engaging. And it offers an invaluable reminder: Even when things look bleak, a few friends can turn your life around." People. No reservations are needed. Please bring your copy of the book to the coffee shop or pick one up at Katie's Cup, corner of 7th Street and 4th Avenue.

LIFESCAPE SENIOR EXPO - A Community Resource for Older Adults, Families, and Caregivers September 18, 2021 - 9am to 3pm, Rock Valley College Physical Education Center.

The Lifescape Senior Expo will feature around a hundred exhibitors, offer health screenings, and a mid-event keynote speaker. Exhibit spaces are available for those interested in engaging with our attendees. We also offer sponsorship opportunities for those interested in making a deeper connection with our community and attendees



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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

Sunday, September 5, 2021

Ushers: (8:00) Jim Anderson, Bob Fanello
(10:00) DiAnne Beynon, John Gustafson
Lector: (8:00) Donna Seefeldt
(10:00) Bob Mc Vinnie
Lay Assistant: (8:00) Tonya Mund
(10:00) Laurel McVinnie
Praise Singer: Bob McVinnie

Sunday, September 12, 2021

Ushers: (8:00) Bob Fanello, Bryan Garrett
(10:00) Bob Peterson, Marge Rakoczy
Lector: (8:00) Carla Phillips
(10:00) John Fridh
Lay Assistant: (8:00) Lori Fanello
(10:00) John Fridh
Praise Singers: Jaime Doubek