



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, September 13, 2021

Volume 48, Issue 17

From Pastor's Desk:

Putting God First

Why do you think it is important to put God first in your life? The quick and easy answer is, well because it's God! God is all powerful, all important and the being that created us. Of course God should be my number one priority. Although we may be quick to answer along those lines, the reality is often for more cloudy. It is hard to put God first in most things. It is hard to make the adjustments and sacrifices that are necessary. It is hard to trust someone other than ourselves to be in control. So much so, that we often just give lip service to the idea that God is #1 in my life. Living is just easier that way.

There are many different stories from the Bible when people did or did not put God first. For example: On a trip to Jerusalem (Luke 9), Jesus and the disciples needed to travel through the region of Samaria (a place where there were ethnic barriers between Jews and Samaritans). As they approached a small village, they discovered the village closed to them. The villagers wanted no part of them. The disciples were horrified at this lack of respect and personal offense. Their response? They wanted to destroy the place - literally with fire and brimstone. Jesus rebuked them. He instructed them that this was not what he was about. Why did the disciples want this to happen? Because they were hurt and offended (legitimately, by that cultures standards). Their pride and God's honor demanded it (or so they felt). They wanted to put their pride, their dignity, and their plans over what Jesus desired from the situation. Thankfully Jesus intervened or there would have been a lot more hurt, pain, and ethnic hatred. How often do we put our own desires, pride, or sense of honor first over God? When we do, we often get into trouble. Situations go from bad to worse. Forgiveness is hard. Turning the other cheek is hard. But this is what God desires. When we put ourselves first, often we make situations far worse, not better. Instead of healing, there is deeper hurt and hatred.

I am often taken aback at how much anger I hear from people nowadays. It seems like so many of us are enraged by offenses (real and imagined) that have been done against us. And we want those who disagree with us punished, hurt, maimed, or removed from society (or at least removed from their position in it). Living with anger is not what God desires for us. God's greatest desire for us is to experience God's grace, forgiveness, and love. God's second greatest desire is probably us helping others to experience God's grace, forgiveness, and love. Putting God first means putting God's desires for our lives first. We need to put God first in our lives not to show that we are great Christians, but because when we don't our lives are worse off.

BY THE NUMBERS

8/29/21	32+36	68	9/5/21	36+29	65
8/29 Online views		14	9/5 Online views		10

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

Gen Fund 8/29/21	\$2,840.51	Gen Fund 9/5/21	\$6,778.00
Forward in Faith	\$1,220.00	Forward in Faith	\$2,110.00
Surplus/Deficit	-\$3,842.22	Surplus/Deficit	+\$985.27

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 Oswalla, Tina Randolph, Tom Rogers, Bob Schult, Jeremy Sturges, Don Tennant, Penny Wendling, all those on the front line and those affected with Covid-19.

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 19th — Kay Lamphere; Angela Wood-Zuzevich, Maddie & Lauren; Richard & Joyce Veit; and Ralph & Becky Toro.

September 26th — Brad, Teresa, Ellina & Jenna Bastian; Pam Hemenway; Harriet Brown; and Bill & Pam Frey.



Tuesday, September 14th—Men’s Bible Study, Sunrise Restaurant, 7 AM * **Note time change**

Tuesday, September 14th—Finance, 6:00 PM

Tuesday, September 14th—Bell Choir, 6 PM

Tuesday, September 14th—Chancel Choir, 7:15 PM

Thursday, September 16th—Church Council, 6 PM



"Choose to make a difference instead of choosing to be indifferent today."

Written in 2013 by Caroline Naoroji --- Virginia



Those Who Serve: A new Those Who Serve Schedule has been put together and will be sent out this week. If your email is on file it will be emailed out to you. We thank you for serving in all the areas of Alpine.

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.



Calling all who love music! Our choirs have begun meeting again 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!

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.



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. (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.

From the SCRIP Desk:

Fall clean up is about to begin. Do you have all of the right equipment to complete the job? SCRIP carries many of our local home improvement stores’ gift cards. Take inventory of what you need and head straight to the SCRIP desk after worship to purchase the necessary cards. (Sorry, SCRIP volunteers only sell the cards; no manual labor.) (Deb Geeser)

KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP

The September edition of “**Living Lutheran**” is here! In this month’s lead story is entitled “Do you see God in me? How Lutherans engage in difficult conversations”. The writer discusses how we, as Lutherans, can approach different conversations from a “faith-based perspective”. The copies are available on the Cares and Concern counter in the narthex as well as in the box outside of Door F.

Once again the headlines are filled with disaster and the devastation caused by Hurricane Ida. As it traveled up the coast of the US. **Lutheran Disaster Response** is busy helping ELCA synods, Lutheran social services, and communities coordinate relief efforts. Visit ELCA.org, click on Our Work, and click on Lutheran Disaster Relief to give towards their efforts.

We're in full swing at the Academy having completed our first 4 weeks of school. I'm excited to share that we continue to meet new families looking for an opportunity to join our Alpine Family. Enrollment is up and we're excited to see what this school year will bring us.

We are looking forward to hosting at least a couple of events in October and encourage you to watch for additional details. We currently have plans to host our Annual Trunk or Treat event that has brought families throughout the area for a safe trick or treat event. Last year we had a record number of participants and look forward to a successful event again this year. We will also be hosting our Academy Vendor/Craft Show on Oct 23rd. We still have spaces available for interested Vendors and Crafters. If you are interested please contact Jody Dabson by e-mail at mrs.dabson@alpineacademyofrockford.com. Mark your calendars we expect this to be a great event and a fantastic way to support Alpine Academy. Watch the Summit for additional announcements this school year.

We look forward to having our students join you on Sunday's this school year to sing on Sunday mornings. We will be inviting classes from school to come and sing at church services beginning in October. Please help by welcoming these families as they join us on Sunday mornings. My hope is that this will encourage all of us to get to know more of our Alpine Family together. Already this school year so many of you have offered assistance to Alpine Academy by volunteering, donating items, financial donations, prayer and a variety of other ways. On behalf of the students, staff and families of Alpine Academy I want to thank you for your continued support. The care of our congregation and ongoing support of the Academy's mission is seen in our students as they learn, play and grow in our school.

In Christ
Scott Dabson
Director
Alpine Academy



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 card. The keys will no longer work shortly after September 12th. (Lynn Valentine)

Community Needs

Rock House Kids:

sharing God's love with inner-city children through Biblical principles, with physical and spiritual solutions.

Wish list—

Shampoo, conditioner, body wash, lotion,
3 hole pre-punched white paper,
donations and items found on their Amazon Wishlist

Rockford Rescue Mission:

sharing hope and help in Jesus' name to move people from homelessness and despair towards personal and spiritual wholeness.

Women's underwear, Men's Scrubs (M-4X),
Tweezers, Sheet Clips, Twin Sheets (XLong),
Cocoa Butter, Men's Hair Styling Products,
Natural Hair Products,
Milk, Cheese, Canned Fruit, Sloppy Joe Mix,
Pepper, Men's Multivitamins,
Advil, Tylenol, and Foot Powder



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 19, 2021

Ushers: (8:00) Karl Okeson, Randy Teske
(10:00) Dick Nelson, Mike Schultz
Lector: (8:00) Pam Lojewski
(10:00) Dick Nelson
Lay Assistant: (8:00) Tonya Mund
(10:00) John Fridh
Praise Singer: Chuck & Lynn Valentine

Sunday, September 26, 2021

Ushers: (8:00) Bryan Garrett, Mari Hanson
(10:00) DiAnne Beynon, John Gustafson
Lector: (8:00) Donna Seefeldt
(10:00) Terry Hodges
Lay Assistant: (8:00) David DeNale
(10:00) Nancy Matthews
Praise Singers: Becky Toro