



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 27, 2021

Volume 48, Issue 18

From Pastor's Desk:

Created In God's Image

Martin Luther said that if he could understand the first two words of the Lord's Prayer as Christ did, the rest of his life in Christ would fall into place. Luther's observation shows that it is easy to use God's words, but much more difficult to grasp the reality they signify.

One of the most profound (yet often misunderstood or ignored) words from the Bible is that we are all created in the image of God. As C.S. Lewis once put it "There are no ordinary people. You have never met a mere mortal." Everyone has worth, dignity and significance simply because God's image is part/ingrained in who we are. This sounds nice, but often people ask the question "Does this really matter? Does being created in the image of God really affect our relationship with God or other people?" The simple answer to that is "Of course it does! It changes everything."

We are created in God's image. It is there, even when it is hidden beneath all the dirt, jealousy, brokenness, hatred, unforgiveness etc... God's image may be tarnished, but it can't be removed from us. Much of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives is to bring change that allows this image to come to the forefront- to shine so to speak.

Often, we want to see change in our lives, but the direction we are working towards is different than what God happens to desire for us. Usually, working against God is not a good thing. The problem we encounter is that misconceptions from history, pop culture, education, and even churches and pastors; are ingrained into us. These falsehoods and our belief in them work against us. They confuse us and misdirect our efforts to know God.

One example can be found in the book of Job. People tend to think that God was out to test Job, to see if he was worthy of God's attention/blessings. If Job stood up to the test, then God would reward him, if not, well then Job simply got what he deserved. This is not true - both in terms of what happens in the story of Job - but also in how God views us. The whole idea of "Does God test us?" can be very confusing. It often leads people to decide that they first must "prove" themselves worthy of God through some faith demonstration before they can get God's attention. This is very far from the truth. But this false idea is ingrained in the mindset of many Christians and thus undermines their faith.

Instead, reflecting the truth that we have God's image created into us means that God is not trying to test us, but simply clean us up a bit. To allow the true nature of who we are to come to the surface so that the world can encounter the true reality of God, God's creation, and the depth and importance of relationships (which are at the core of who God is – God exists in community not isolation). Having a true understanding of what God desires from us (or is attempting to accomplish in us) goes a long way in helping us to get on board with what God is doing instead of working against God. Allowing the image of God to shine in us is what God desires, not seeing us jump through hoops in order to prove ourselves.

BY THE NUMBERS

9/12/21	32 + 32	64	9/19/21	32 + 33	65
9/12 Online views		11	9/19 Online views		13
Required total receipts weekly.....\$7,902.73					
Gen Fund 9/12/21		\$5,023.00	Gen Fund 9/19/21		\$1,422.00
Forward in Faith		\$928.00	Forward in Faith		\$435.00
Surplus/Deficit		+\$548.27	Surplus/Deficit		-\$5,985.73
53 rd /54 th Week.....\$2,560.00					
Surplus/Deficit YTD..... - \$4,056.59 (8/31/21)					



Pray for Alpine members:

Pat Anderson, Linda Becker, Vince Bertolotto, Darrell Brenner, 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, Ralph Toro, Sr., Penny Wendling, all those on the front line and those affected with Covid-19.

All In the Family

Gary Hunt sends his thanks for the many cards, texts and calls wishing him a Happy Birthday. **Kathy Cordonnier** expressed her thanks for the flowers she recently received. God's blessings on the birth of **Camden Phillip Valentine**, born September 2nd to Mike and Alyssa (Kreighbaum) Valentine. Our love and condolences go out to the family of **Martha Carlson** who died September 13th. Congratulations to **Chris & Zoie LaFew** who were married at Alpine on September 25th. Many thanks from **Darrell & Donna Brenner** for anniversary, birthday, and get well wishes they have received. They also thank everyone for the altar flowers that were delivered for their anniversary.

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.**

October 3rd — Alan & Marlene Garrett; Mike & Gwyn Brechtel; Megan Brechtel; and Darrell & Donna Brenner.

October 10th — Louise Dorris; David & Laura DeNale; Nick DeNale; Kelly & Hanna Denk.



Monday, September 27th—Mental Health, 5:30 PM
Saturday, October 9th—Altar Guild, 9:00 AM
Thursday, October 14th—Rejoicing Spirits, in person service, 6 PM
Saturday, October 23rd—Academy Craft & Vendor Show, Gym, 9 AM—4 PM



Reminder for all Travelers & Vacationers

If you are away from your home for a period of time please let the office know a forwarding address so that you may keep up with what is happening at Alpine while you are gone. Please provide a start and stop date to keep things current.



Congratulations and God's blessings on **Tim Babcock**, Alpine's custodian for over 25 years, as he transitions to the retirement life. Tim will be **retiring on Sunday, October 31st**. We are grateful for the dedication that Tim has given to his work here at Alpine and want to send him off with a retirement lunch at 11:30 AM that Sunday. We will serve a pasta lunch in the gymnasium and celebrate Tim as he enters this new chapter. A collection for a retirement gift will be collected. Please just note that it is for his gift on the check or envelope.

Confirmation classes will begin in October. They will start meeting via Zoom with other churches in the area on Sunday, October 10th, at 4 PM. If you have any questions or to receive the Zoom link, please see Pastor Dan.

Sunday, October 24th will be **Bible Sunday** for all Kindergarten and 2nd graders. If your child did not receive a Bible from those grades last year, please let us know so we can include them as well. (Christian Ed)

From the SCRIP Desk:

SCRIP is still looking for volunteers to help staff the scrip desk. You can choose between one Sunday a month or filling in as needed, please contact Deb Geeser if you would like to volunteer. SCRIP has an overabundance of AMC SCRIP cards. If you would like to go to the movies stop by and purchase a few SCRIP AMC cards and enjoy your movie. A reminder if there are no volunteers at the SCRIP desk just leave your order and check in the plastic holder on the SCRIP desk and your order will be filled and ready the following Sunday. (Deb Geeser)

KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP

Because the Covid virus continues to ravages the country this year's **CROP Hunger Walk** will be virtual once again. However, the need is as great as ever. Learn how or make a donation at www.crophungerwalk.org/rockfordil or **sign-up to sponsor John Linde** on the Cares & Concerns desk in the narthex by **Sunday, October 17th**.

Katie's Choice Book Club meets every 2nd Thursday of the month at 10 AM. The book for discussion in October is "Before I Go to Sleep" by S. J. Watson. This novel is a psychological thriller about a woman suffering from amnesia and the truths and lies she learns as she

The **Property and Personnel Committees** will be looking for a part-time replacement for the **custodian position**. Please watch your email and future Summits for further information that can be shared with others.



The school year has been progressing really well for us at the Academy. We've continued to grow in size and welcome new families to join our Alpine Family. We are looking forward to having Academy families join us on Sundays when their students attend services to sing for us.

The first date that students will be singing is Sunday, October 3rd at the 10 AM service. Our Kindergarten students have been busy preparing their music. We will continue to have classes from the academy sing at 10 AM service on the first Sunday of each month throughout the school year. Please help me by welcoming our academy families on these Sundays.

As many of you are aware, finding substitute teachers has become a larger task than in the past. If you are interested and would be willing to be placed on our Sub List please contact us at the school. This is another great way that you can assist us at the school to ensure a quality educational experience for our students.

Remember our Vendor/Craft Show is on October 23rd from 9 AM to 4 PM. We do have some spaces open if you or someone you know would like a space. Please contact Jody Dabson, mrs.dabson@alpineacademyofrockford.com, for more information. We are also beginning to accept candy donations for our Trunk or Treat event that will take place on October 29th. If you'd like to make a donation you can drop the candy off at the church or school office or you are welcome to drop some off with me on Sunday mornings.

Thank you for all you do to support Alpine Academy!

In Christ,
 Mr. Scott Dabson
 Director



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

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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, October 3, 2021

Ushers: (8:00) Glen McDonald, Kathy Mund
(10:00) DiAnne Beynon, John Gustafson
Lector: (8:00) Terry Hodges
(10:00) Dick Nelson
Lay Assistant: (8:00) Terry Hodges
(10:00) Dick Nelson
Praise Singer: Jaime Doubek

Sunday, October 10, 2021

Ushers: (8:00) Jim Anderson, Bob Fanello
(10:00) Bob Peterson, Marge Rakoczy
Lector: (8:00) Bob Fanello
(10:00) John Fridh
Lay Assistant: (8:00) Lori Fanello
(10:00) John Fridh
Praise Singers: Bob McVinnie