



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, October 11, 2021

Volume 48, Issue 19

From Pastor's Desk:

What If...? Alpine 2021 Stewardship Series

What if...? What if we cultivated a heart like God's? What if we put God first? What if we joined into something extraordinary? What if we all used - not just our money, but our time, gifts and talents to serve God? Our 2021 stewardship series here at Alpine (coming October 31st - Nov. 21st) will explore what if we had not just more money, but more hearts, more creative brains, more diversity... just plain more people joining in? How can we get more connected to God's amazing world changing mission?

One of the questions that our youth asked me during a recent mission trip was "Why is it so hard for Christians to serve one another?" As I pondered how to answer this, I thought the simple answer was probably the best. It is because we are too self-absorbed to actually love the people around us. Our society has sold us a bill of goods. They have convinced many people that love is a commodity that can be obtained or experienced. You barter love away and hopefully you get a good return on your investment in your relationships. This is the very antithesis of how love is demonstrated to us in the life of Jesus. Jesus doesn't barter with love (giving it only to those he can trust and who will love him back). Instead, Jesus gives love away freely and abundantly without expectation of return. Because Jesus loves so freely and because he is not focused on just obtaining a pleasurable experience from another person - God is both revealed and glorified in all that Jesus does. As people experience this kind of love they are changed. They begin to heal and to love others. Their faith grows, their experience of God becomes more profound and the lies of this world are revealed for what they truly are -lies.

But because we are so self-absorbed, living lives so riddled with sin, we find it hard to serve others. Because it seems hard, we give up. We fall further into believing the lies the world tells us and our faith is diminished. This is why serving others is so important. It reverses this process. This is why it is so closely connected to our own spiritual growth.

But it also widens our vision and ability to see and experience God. If we aren't serving others, if we aren't joining in God's ministry, then we are becoming more self-focused. It is a death spiral for our spiritual lives. The more we focus on ourselves, the more detached we become from God (even if God's presence is still in our lives). The more we take our eyes off ourselves and serve others, the more we are connected to God. This results in us gaining a deeper ability to see, experience, find, follow, and hear God.

It is also why it is one of our core values – because it is essential for us if we are to fulfill our mission: Called by Christ, our mission is to share God's love. In so many situations it is the essence of simply serving that will break down the barriers that prevent people from knowing the love of Christ.

BY THE NUMBERS

9/26/21	29 + 39	68	10/3/21	40 + 83	123
9/26 Online views		7	10/3 Online views		7
		Rejoicing Spirits		54	
Required total receipts weekly.....\$7,902.73					
Gen Fund 9/26/21		\$6,030.00	Gen Fund 10/3/21		\$4,538.00
Forward in Faith		\$900.00	Forward in Faith		\$750.00
Surplus/Deficit		-\$294.47	Surplus/Deficit		-\$2,614.73
Unexpected Blessings	\$223.26		53rd/54th Week	\$455.00	
Surplus/Deficit YTD..... - \$4,056.59 (8/31/21)					



Pray for Alpine members:

Pat Anderson, Linda Becker, Darrell Brenner, Rick Bried, Cindy Bulthaus, Chris Christiansen, Ernest & Mary De-Nale, Marybeth Gillette, Joan Greeny, Louise Hemenway, Rich & Jan Hill, Norma Lucas, Pastor Rick Meier, Valerie Miller, 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

Birthday thanks came in from **Chuck Valentine** and **Kathy Cor-donnier**. **Karl & Deb Okeson** send their thanks for the altar flow-ers they received celebrating their anniversary. Our love and sympa-thies go out to Bob & Linda Radford. Linda's brother, Randy carter, died September 27th.

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 17th — Larry & Joni Graham; Gerald & Mari Hanson; Louise Hemenway; and Pat Anderson.

October 24th — Elliot, Rebecca, Charlotte & Elizabeth Kallstrom; Deb & Ryan Matthews; Kent & Barb Milton; and Charlie & Gail Davidson



Thursday, October 21st—Church Council, 6 PM
Saturday, October 23rd—Academy Craft & Vendor Show, Gym, 9 AM—4 PM
Sunday, October 24th—Bible Sunday, 10 AM
Sunday, October 31st—Reformation Sunday, wear RED



With the Alpine Academy children singing at during our 10 AM worship on the first Sunday of the month, Christian Ed has decided to hold **Children's Church** on those Sundays as well. The children will be dismissed after the Prayer of the Day and return during the Song of the Day. We hope to see you there November 7th!



The **Property and Personnel Committees** are looking for a part-time replacement for the **custodian position** at Alpine. The position will include 20—25 hours a week, cleaning and possible event set-up. The pay will be negotiable according to experience. Please see one of the members of the Personnel Committees for more information.

Sunday, October 24th will be **Bible Sunday** for all Kindergarteners 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:

We are still looking for volunteers to help man the SCRIP kiosk on Sundays. Currently we will only have it open on the **1st and 3rd Sunday**. If you have an order you would like placed on a Sunday when there is no one at the kiosk, you may place your order in the box or email the church office. Lynn is able to fill some orders during the week but our inventory is limited. (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 navigates her recovery.

Don't forget the **Academy Vendor Show** on Saturday, **October 23rd from 9-4 PM**. Come and get a head start on your holiday decorating and gift ideas. **We are looking for baked goods for our bake sale.** (Scott Dabson)

In this month's **Living Lutheran**, the cover story discusses connecting generations. The cover story, "Memories Worth Every Pedal" takes us through a father-son cross country bike tour and the connections that were built during this trip. Copies of the magazine are available on the Cares and Concern counter as well as in the box outside of door F.

Congratulations and God's blessings on **Tim Babcock**, Alpine's custodian for over 30 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 and lunch will be collected. Please just note that it is for his gift on the check or envelope.

Social Ministries has begun collecting for the **Holiday Food Baskets**. All items need to be collected by Thursday, November 18th. 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. (Social Ministries)



Alpine Academy
of Rockford
Faith • Family • Future

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, October 24th—Bible Sunday, Kindergarteners and 2nd graders, 10 AM
Friday, October 29th—Trunk or Treat, candy donation appreciated and trunks needed, 6 PM
Sunday, November 7th—Academy Kids Sing, 10 AM
Thursday, November 11th—Veteran's Day Program, Gym, 2 PM



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Non-profit org
U.S. Postage
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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

Sunday, October 17, 2021

Ushers: (8:00) Karl Okeson, Randy Teske
(10:00) Jim Burnett, Dick Nelson
Lector: (8:00) Randy Teske
(10:00) Pr. Rick Meier
Lay Assistant: (8:00) Deb Okeson
(10:00) Pr. Rick Meier
Praise Singer: Bob McVinnie

Sunday, October 24, 2021

Ushers: (8:00) Bryan Garrett, Tonya Mund
(10:00) Mari Hanson, John Linde
Lector: (8:00) Donna Seefeldt
(10:00) Violet Peterson
Lay Assistant: (8:00) Nancy Matthews
(10:00) Violet Peterson
Praise Singers: Chuck & Lynn Valentine