



**Special points of interest:**

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

Church Office Hours  
 Mon.—Thurs.  
 8:30 AM—4:30 PM  
 (Lunch 12:30—1:30 PM)

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Monday, January 9, 2023

Volume 50, Issue 1

*From Pastor Dan:*

## A New Hope

I Recently saw the Star Wars Movie *Rogue One*. It is the story of how a group of rebels obtained the secret plans to the Death Star- plans that help save the day in the original Star Wars Movie. At the end of *Rogue One*, after tremendous sacrifices have been made, someone asks the question “What have we gained?” The answer (and the final words of the movie) is “Hope!”

Hope is one of the main themes throughout this series of movies. Hope is what keeps people alive, willing them to live and persevere despite the darkness of evil that seems to be winning the day. Hope is what people depend on, it provides guidance, direction, and is the source of their courage. Hope is powerful. It can capture a mind, a people, an entire generation.

Soon, we will be celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. Day – a day when we remember our Heroes who stand up to injustice, racism, tyranny, and the degradation of people who are different than us. Dr. King gave us so much. He not only inspired us with hope, but he demonstrated how to live and stand up to these forces of evil that so easily consume our country. Reverend King also powerfully demonstrated what it means to be the church. When Jesus first spoke about what the church was supposed to be (Matt 16) it was in the context of empowering Peter and the disciples to be the church (which is not a building or a club). The church is a group of people that are to be powerful witnesses of hope. People who bring Good News to a dark and grim world. Jesus gave this vision when he and his disciples were standing in the shadow of one of the most corrupt and evil cities of Israel (Caesarea Philippi – a city known for its heinous forms of worship that included human sacrifice). It was in this context that Jesus said those famous words “I tell you, you are the rock upon which I will build my church, and the gates of Hell will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven” (Matt 16:18-19). The vision of Jesus’ church was one that would be a voice in this world, standing up to the powers of darkness that enslave people, setting them free with the power of the Gospel. What a powerful vision. It was this picture of what the church should be that lead Reverend King to be such a passionate voice against the powers of injustice, racism, poverty, and privilege that hold people captive in our country today. Let us reclaim this vision of the church. Let us offer freedom and hope to a world that desperately needs it. Amen!

**BY THE NUMBERS**

12/18/22	18 + 76	94	12/24/22	39 + 29	69
Online Views		22	Online Views		46
12/25/22		37	1/1/23		56
No online service			Online Views		19

Required total receipts weekly.....\$7,458.56

Gen Fund 12/18/22	\$6,636.00	Gen Fund 12/25/22	\$4,009.00	Gen Fund 12/18/22	\$3,872.00
Forward in Faith	\$1,433.00	Forward in Faith	\$641.00	Forward in Faith	\$583.00
Surplus/Deficit	+\$2,593.44	Surplus/Deficit	-\$1,603.56	Surplus/Deficit	-\$3,003.56
53rd/54th Week.....	\$1,533.00	Unexp. Bless.....	\$20.00	Festival.....	\$1,535.00
		Giving Tues.....	\$100.00		
		Surplus/Deficit YTD.....	+\$1,083.84 (12/31/22)		



**Pray for Alpine members:**

Linda Becker, Rick Bried, Cindy Bulthaus, Mary DeNale, Marybeth Gillette, Louise Hemenway, Jan Hill, Jim Hill, Pam Hodges, Les Johnson, Valerie Miller, JR Stropes, Jeanne Tengren, Don Torgerson, and Pat Turmo.

**Pray for our friends and family of Alpine:**

Sally Atkinson, Kim Braun, Linda Conness, Cornelia Foley, Daniel Hendrickson, Darlene Johnson, Kathleen Lovins, Todd McDonald, Sharon Mund, Judy Osiwalla, David Rawls, Bob Schult, Jeremy Sturges, Don Tennant, Penny Wendling, all those in the Ukraine conflict, and all affected by Hurricane Ian.

**All in the Family**

Birthday thanks came in from **Carla Phillips** and **Diane Billert**. **Diane** also wishes to thank everyone for the get well wishes and calls. "It means so much to be remembered." **Mary De-Nale** sends her thanks for the prayers and cards after her recent hospital stay.

**Worship Schedule :**

- **Sunday Worship:**  
8:00 AM Traditional Worship  
10:00 AM Praise Worship/ YouTube-Facebook Live
- **Children's Church** meets every Sunday during the 10 AM worship, monthly Grab & Go packets will continue to be available for pick-up.
- **Academy Chapel:** 2:15 PM every Tuesday 1st—6th grades, 9:15 AM every Friday Preschool—K Everyone is invited
- **Rejoicing Spirits: Every 1<sup>st</sup> (in person) & 3<sup>rd</sup> (Zoom) Thursday, 6:00 PM** This service is for those with developmental disabilities, their families, caregivers, and others.
- **Men's Bible Breakfast:** 7:00 AM Tuesdays, Sunrise Restaurant
- **Wednesday Bible Study:** 10 AM, Conference room



**Pastor Dan's office hours:** Mondays 12:00-3:00; 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 the office whenever the need arises for extra prayers you may have.

**Together we worship, together we pray,  
together we love.**

**January 15<sup>th</sup>** — Jennifer Sproule; Amanda Meyers; and Nan Strom.

**January 22<sup>nd</sup>** — Ardy Stevens; Barbara Johnson; and Craig & Louise Skolrood

**Sunday, January 15, 2023**

**Ushers:** (8) Karl Okeson, Randy Teske (10) Jim Burnett, Dick Nelson  
**Ambassadors:** (8) Jan Anderson, Gwyn Brechtel (10) John & David Linde  
**Lector:** (8) Randy Teske (10) Bob McVinnie  
**Lay Assistant:** (8) David DeNale (10) Bob & Laurel McVinnie  
**Praise Singer:** Becky Toro

**Sunday, January 22, 2023**

**Ushers:** (8) Tonya Bagwell, Andrea Tack (10) Marge Rakoczy, John Linde  
**Ambassador:** (8) Les & Carol Johnson (10) Aaron Ayen, Mike Schultz  
**Lector:** (8) Pam Lojewski (10) Lisa Slothower  
**Lay Assistant:** (8) Pam Lojewski (10) Nancy Matthews  
**Praise Singers:** Chuck & Lynn Valentine

**Official Notice:**

**The congregation of Alpine Lutheran Church is hereby convened for its annual meeting to take place on Sunday, February 5, 2023 at 11:30 AM. The meeting will include reports and election of members to the church council.**

Fellowship is a very important part of every congregation. We all enjoy conversing after church especially with coffee and a treat. **We need people to provide those treats.** 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.

The **Nomination Committee** of the Church Council is still looking to fill several positions for next year's council. Please contact Scott Christiansen, John Linde or Craig Shelton if you feel called to serve in this way. You may contact the church office as well.

**From the SCRIP Desk:**

This year was a year of many unknowns. As we returned to a new normal, the SCRIP card sales have not bounced back as quickly as anticipated. Our contributions to the church are still being calculated but we do know they will be less than years past. Don't forget to check our stock of cards or put in an order for any up-coming events. (Jody Dabson)

**KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP**

**2023 Altar Flower and Eternal Candle** charts are up. 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. (Altar Guild)

**Calling all those who are musically inclined!** Both of our choirs, the Chancel Choir and the Hand Bell Choir are in need of additional members. We especially need people during the winter months when a portion of our choirs "fly south." Please see Richard Dowling or just come to our rehearsals. Both choirs meet on Tuesday evenings, Hand Bell Choir meets at 6 PM and Chancel Choir meets at 7:15 PM. (Richard Dowling)



**Committee Chairpersons:** We need all annual reports to be sent to the office by January 16<sup>th</sup>. It would be very helpful if all reports could be in electronic form and in Word format. This makes it easier for me to do any manipulation for printing. If you are unable to submit your report this way, I will understand. Thank you. (Lynn Valentine)

It is important that you receive **our emails or notices on Facebook** to know the most up to date information for Alpine Lutheran. If you would like to add your email to our list please notify Lynn in the office. You may find us on Facebook by searching Alpine Lutheran Church of Rockford. Like the page and then turn on notifications for new posts.

**2022 Giving Statements** will be available to pick up from the counter in the coat room by January 15<sup>th</sup>. If you find any discrepancies please contact Lynn in the office. The statements will remain on the counter through the Annual Meeting and then any remaining will be mailed out. If you would prefer, they can be emailed out. Please let Lynn know.

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)



**Special Thanks:** Thank you to all who donated money and food items for the Holiday Baskets at both Thanksgiving and at Christmas. (Social Ministry Committee)



We invite all children to come to our **Children's Church** during the 10:00 worship hour. Grab bags will be available for pick-up.



**Alpine Lutheran Church**  
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Non-profit org  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
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

**Called by Christ, our mission is to share God's love.**



Happy New Year from everyone at Alpine Academy! Hopefully you enjoyed your Christmas time and celebration welcoming a new year. Our students returned to school ready to learn and Teachers prepared to learn together with them. We're preparing for big events coming soon that we'd love to have you be a part of.

**Alpine Academy of Rockford** I hope that you're making plans to join us for our Annual Dinner this year on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Additional information will be coming very soon. We have not been able to host this dinner the last few years and are looking forward to hosting this year. As part of this years dinner we will also be celebrating 25 years of education at Alpine. Can you believe that 25 years ago Alpine Lutheran Church welcomed a school into our family? Over those 25 years the number of students, staff and families who have been reached is overwhelming. Please continue to watch your Summit and your mailbox for more information in the coming weeks.

Each year we have hosted an Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Alpine Academy. We are already preparing eggs and will soon be filling them. Last year we filled over 23,000 eggs and had a very successful Easter Egg Hunt. This year we will also be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt at our Resurrection Campus. This means we'll be seeking more eggs (when they're available) and candy. Thanks in advance to everyone who is able to help with this event.

On January 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am Michele Abraham will be joining us in the Sanctuary to read her book. Michele is the host of "Good Day Stateline" and will be reading "Lunchtime Smorgasbord," a book she recently published and is selling on Amazon. Michele is a friend to Alpine Academy having us join her often on her show. You are welcome to join our students and staff for this visit with Michele.

As we begin a new calendar year it is important to us that we continue to let you know how much we appreciate all of your support and prayers. We could not continue without the support you give. We are one family at Alpine.

In Christ  
Scott Dabson  
Admissions Director  
Alpine Academy