



**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, March 20, 2023

Volume 50, Issue 7

*From Pastor Dan:*

As Lent is now upon us, I would like to share with you one of my favorite Lenten quotes:

*“In many cultures there is an ancient custom of giving a tenth of each year's income to some holy use. For Christians, to observe the forty days of Lent is to do the same thing with roughly a tenth of each year's days. After being baptized by John in the River Jordan, Jesus went off alone into the wilderness where he spent forty days asking himself the question of what it meant to be Jesus. **During Lent, Christians are supposed to ask one way or another what it means to be themselves...**to answer questions like these is to begin to hear something not only of who you are but of both what you are becoming and what you are failing to become. It can be a pretty depressing business all in all, but if sackcloth and ashes are at the start of it, something like Easter may be at the end.” – Frederick Buechner, *Whistling In the Dark**

This quote helps me both to understand the significance of Lent and to guide me in establishing the right frame of mind. It touches on the importance of sacrifice that Lent teaches us but also points us to the tremendous award that awaits - Easter. Sometimes people feel that Lent is just an inconvenient bump in their schedule, something that needs to be “waded through” so we can get on with our lives and not make God too unhappy with us. The reality is that Lent provides us with an opportunity to step out of our normal way of living, to try and hold back the negative pressures of our pervasive culture, to examine our present lives and plot a course towards God, not away from God. Yes, observing Lent involves sacrifice. But as we observe Lent, Easter and all its promises are made all the more significant - *promises of new life, hope, and victory.*

So, during Lent we explore the inner parts of who we are. We take a hard look at our own sinfulness, pride, and self-destructive lifestyles. We are horrified but encouraged to not hide from the truth. Instead, we turn to God with repentant hearts, rejoicing that because of Easter, we are made anew - ready to become the people God created for us to be. Often the practice goes like this. During Lent we offer up a sacrifice or fast to God - to help get our attention away from the demands of the false self, so that the Holy Spirit can lead us to repentance. Repentance then leads us to the further and deeper work that Jesus has for our lives. Come join us at Alpine Lutheran Church this Lent as we continue to discover God's call in the not yet. There is a much deeper work inside of us that awaits.

**BY THE NUMBERS**

3/5/23	42 + 68	110	3/12/23	23 + 45	68
Online Views		15	Online Views		6

Required total receipts weekly.....\$7,759.44

Gen Fund 3/5/23	\$5,392.00	Gen Fund 3/12/23	\$8,149.00
Forward in Faith	\$978.00	Forward in Faith	\$1,211.00
Surplus/Deficit	-\$1,263.44	Surplus/Deficit	+\$1,621.56

Festival .....\$137.00 Unexpected Blessings .....\$10.00

\*Many of the beginning of the year financial totals include full year pledge amounts.



**Pray for Alpine members:**

Linda Becker, Cindy Bulthaus, Mary DeNale, Marybeth Gillette, Jan Hill, Jim Hill, Pam Hodges, Les Johnson, Valerie Miller, JR Stropes, Melissa Stucky, 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, and all those in the Ukraine conflict and Turkey earthquakes.



**All in the Family**

Birthday thanks came in from **Lynn Valentine** and **Mark Stohle**.

**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.**

**March 26<sup>th</sup>** — Elliot, Rebecca, Charlotte, & Elizabeth Kallstrom; Deb & Ryan Matthews; Kent & Barb Milton; and Charlie & Gail Davidson

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>** — Kathy Cordonnier; Mike & Marlene Bukowski; Nick DeNale; and Chris Christiansen

**Sunday, March 26, 2023**

**Ushers:** (8) Tonya Bagwell, Karl Okeson (10) John Linde, Marge Rakoczy

**Ambassadors:** (8) Andrea Tack (10) Aaron Ayen, Mike Schultz

**Lector:** (8) Bob Fanello (10) Becky Toro

**Lay Assistant:** (8) Bob & Lori Fanello (10) Nancy Matthews

**Praise Singers:** Chuck & Lynn Valentine

**Sunday, April 1, 2023—Palm Sunday**

**Ushers:** (8) Glen McDonald, Kathy Mund (10) John Gustafson, Mari Hanson

**Ambassadors:** (8) Karl & Deb Okeson (10) DiAnne Beynon, Amanda Dabson

**Lector:** (8) Gwyn Brechtel (10) Pr. Rick Meier

**Lay Assistant:** (8) David DeNale (10) Pr. Rick Meier

**Praise Singer:** Bob McVinnie

We continue with our Lenten theme “**Unfinished: Discovering God’s Call in the Not Yet**”; a theme churches across the synod are using. Join us each Wednesday evening and Sunday morning as we discuss how we are reminded that God is with us in our journey between yesterday and tomorrow.

Our **Lenten Soup Suppers and worship services** continue every Wednesday. Come and enjoy a bowl of soup, some bread, and of course, a dessert every Wednesday prior to the worship service. Starting at 6 PM. Lenten worship in the sanctuary will follow at 7 PM. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex to help with the Soup Suppers. Please mark your calendars and make the time to attend.

The Altar Guild is now taking orders for our **2023 Easter Glory Garden**. We will have our traditional lilies and tulips. An order envelope is available on the kiosk in the narthex. The cost is \$13 per plant. Orders will be taken through Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. (Laurel McVinnie)

John Linde is planning on having an **Easter Breakfast** between services this year but he needs your help. He needs volunteers in the kitchen to help serve and donations of egg casseroles. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex if you can help. All monies collected will go towards a fund to start a new kids’ club which is in the works.

**From the SCRIP Desk:**

Hopefully soon the snow will be melting and spring clean-up will begin (unless Mother Nature has another surprise up her sleeve). Do you have all of the supplies for this year? SCRIP has Walmart, Lowes, Home Depot and Menards cards so that you can stock up on your needs. (Jody Dabson)

**KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP**

The **Social Ministries/Connections** committee has been informed by the Rescue Mission that we **cannot bring sack lunches** for the patrons on Palm Sunday. We can however, make a monetary donation to buy the food for that day and they will make the lunches. If you are able to contribute, please mark you donation for **Rockford Rescue Mission—Palm Sunday Meal**. (John Linde)

You are invited to attend the **Alpine Academy Easter Program** on **Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM** in the gym. Come and hear our kids share the glory of Easter. Let’s show our support of our school.



**Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>—Palm Sunday**  
worship services at 8 & 10 AM

**Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>—Maundy Thursday**  
worship services at 11 AM &  
Academy Easter Program at 6 PM

**Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>—Good Friday, Tenebrae**  
Cantata worship service at 7 PM

**Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>—Easter Sunday,**  
worship services at 8 & 10

with Breakfast served between services

The C & E Choirs of Alpine invite you to a presentation of “God So Loved” by Pepper Choplin, a **Good Friday Cantata** with gradual darkening, Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. We will have narration and music by both our choirs. Please plan to attend this beautiful musical presentation.

The April edition of **Living Lutheran** is on the Care & Concern counter in the narthex. In this month’s cover article, “Seeing the Passion Story in a New Way: How art infuses one pastor’s ministry”, we learn about Mary Button, who has been incorporating art in her ministry teachings. Pick up a copy and share it with a friend.

**Sunday Morning Coffee Hour**—It’s great spending time between services enjoying conversations with other members and visitors. It’s especially nice when you can share a bite to eat and a beverage. We need volunteers to provide those snacks. All you need to bring are some treats (purchased or home baked) and a cold beverage. Everything else is provided. Just sign up on the poster by the coffee. Thank you.



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.



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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

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



**Alpine Academy**  
 of Rockford  
 Faith • Family • Future

Spring is just about here although at times it seems we haven't had much winter. Of course that really only applies to those of us that enjoy the winter snowy activities. With Spring also brings us into a period of both completion and preparations. We look forward to the success of this period in both areas.

As we begin our 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter we are also completing this school year. As we do that our teachers are working hard to complete instruction. In our 2<sup>nd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> Grades our teachers are preparing for our Stanford testing that will give us a picture of where our students are in the learning. The final quarter of each school year is typically a fun time for students and staff as we add in many activities and several classes take field trips. We look forward to working together with students to complete our 2023-24 School Year together.

We are also preparing for our next school year, our 26<sup>th</sup> at Alpine! Part of that preparation is in the Open House events that we host. Our next, and likely biggest, Open House will take place on April 1<sup>st</sup> and April 2<sup>nd</sup> with our Open House and Easter Egg Hunt Events. On April 1<sup>st</sup> we will be here at Alpine, our Main Campus, from 9:00a to 11:00a for our Annual Open House and Egg Hunt. On April 2<sup>nd</sup> we will host an Open House at Egg Hunt at our Resurrection Campus from 1:00p to 3:00p. This has been our largest Open House the past several years. We will have flyers out in the Narthex the next few Sundays, please take some to share with friends. Encourage them to consider Alpine Academy for their children.

We are also still in need of Plastic Easter Eggs and Candy for our Egg Hunts and Volunteers to help fill them. We fill eggs everyday after school from 3:30p to 5:00p and on Wednesday evenings from 5:00p to 6:00p before our Soup Supper. We are also here at the main Campus Saturday morning from approximately 8:30a to 10:00a fill as well. Please help with donations or volunteering as you can.

In Christ,  
 Scott Dabson  
 Director  
 Alpine Academy