



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, February 20, 2023

Volume 50, Issue 4

From Pastor Dan:

Unfinished: Discovering God's Call in the Not Yet.

(Alpine Lenten theme 2023)

“Honor the space between no longer and not yet,” so writes author and life coach, Nancy Levin. We can probably all think of a host of experiences from our own lives in which we occupy the space between no longer and not yet. The space between no longer pre-pandemic life and not yet what will settle into post-pandemic life. The space between before and after a medical diagnosis, before and after living with a loss, before and after navigating a relationship change, a job change, a move. The space between childhood and adulthood, young adulthood and midlife, midlife and the autumn years. The space between yesterday and tomorrow, your comfort zone and uncharted territory. The space between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday.

The church by its very nature, and we as people of faith, live our whole lives in the space between no longer and not yet. Cross-marked and Spirit-sealed, we dwell in the space between the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus and the final fulfillment of God's hope-filled promises. In this space between, we dwell in the unfinished as unfinished people. As John reminds us, “we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed.”

But we are not left alone in this space between no longer and not yet. We are not left alone to navigate this unfinished life by ourselves. God is here - present-tense, each and every day - calling to us, accompanying us, renewing and recreating us - over and over again.

God calls us once and forever and over and over again. Called by God through water and the Word, marked with the cross of Christ forever, we are God's beloved children. Nothing can change that - not our greatest successes or our worst failures. But so much beckons for our attention - for good and for ill - that it can become difficult to both hear and lean into God's call in everyday life. Lent is a time amid this unfinished life in which we are invited into experiences of reset and renewal, trusting that God is with us to help us to imagine again and anew how we live into God's call in daily life (*adapted from an article originally written By Rev. Dr. Charlene Rachuy Cox*).

Join us this Lent at Alpine Lutheran Church as we discover and answer God's call to us in the no longer and not yet of our lives. Each week we will dive into our Lenten theme during our Sunday morning worship and Wednesday evening guided meditations. Don't forget Soup Suppers every Wednesday during Lent at 6:00!

BY THE NUMBERS

2/5/23 (One service, Annual Meeting) 73		2/12/23	31 + 51	81
Online Views	11	Online Views		9
Required total receipts weekly.....\$7,759.44				
Gen Fund 2/5/23	\$10,324.00	Gen Fund 2/12/23		\$5,182.00
Forward in Faith	\$3,228.00	Forward in Faith		\$975.00
Surplus/Deficit	+\$6,827.56	Surplus/Deficit		-\$1,602.44
Festival\$280.00		Unexpected Blessings\$500.00		53/54 Week\$300.00

*Many of the January and February financials 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, 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.

All in the Family

Birthday thanks came in from **Joni Graham**. We share our love and sympathy with **Sue Lovitt & Pam Hemenway and their families** following the death of Louise Hemenway. **Pam Hodges** sent in a note to express her appreciation for Pastor's visits, the poinsettia plant, cards and many prayers.

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 1st (in person) & 3rd (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.**

February 26th — Jan Bergstrom; Pam Hemenway; Richard Ewert; Rich & Linda Rimkus; and Harriet Brown

March 5th — Megan, Merrick & Cooper Hill; Al & Marlene Garrett; Joan & Nicholas Chockalingam; Gwyn Brechtel; and Darrell & Donna Brenner

Sunday, February 26, 2023

Ushers: (8) Tonya Bagwell, Andrea Tack (10) John Linde, Marge Rakoczy
Ambassadors: (8) Karl & Deb Okeson (10) Amanda Dabson
Lector: (8) Andrea Tack (10) Lisa Slothower
Lay Assistant: (8) David DeNale (10) Mike Schultz
Praise Singer: Chuck & Lynn Valentine

Sunday, March 5, 2023

Ushers: (8) Glen McDonald, Kathy Mund (10) John Gustafson, Mari Hanson
Ambassadors: (8) Les & Carol Johnson (10) John & David Linde
Lector: (8) Pam Lojewski (10) Martin Scott
Lay Assistant: (8) Pam Lojewski (10) Martin Scott
Praise Singer: Bob McVinnie



"For dust you are and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19)
Wednesday, February 22nd is Ash Wednesday. We will have worship services with the imposition of ashes at both 11 AM and 7 PM. This marks the beginning of the Lenten season and our journey towards the cross.

This year's Lenten devotional is entitled "**In View of God's Mercy**" by David Boyd. "In these daily devotions for Lent, we take a look at our lives in view of God's mercy toward us through the sacrifice of his Son for us on the cross." They will be available on Ash Wednesday.

Our **Lenten Soup Suppers** will begin on Wednesday, March 1st at 6 PM. Lenten worship will follow at 7 PM. A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex to help with the Soup Suppers. Please mark your calendars and make the time to attend.

Shrove Tuesday, or Fat Tuesday, is the day before Lent, the period of traditional fasting and prayer that precedes Easter. The tradition of eating pancakes on Shrove Tuesday began as a way to use up ingredients including butter, milk and eggs that were not supposed to be eaten and would go bad during the period of Lent. **Tuesday, February 21st**, the Academy will be serving a **Pancake Supper from 5 – 7 PM** in Fellowship Hall.



It is not too late to get your RSVPs in for the **Academy Dinner and Family Feud Night, Saturday, March 4th**. Join us for a fun night of food, entertainment, raffles and more. This is sure to become a favorite event for everyone!

March 5th—11th is **ELEA Lutheran Schools week** and in celebration of it the Academy will be participating in our worship service for Sunday, March 5th. Join us for these special worship services and show your support for this ministry of Alpine.

Easter will be here before you know it and it is time to make your orders for our **Easter Glory Garden**. An order form will be on the kiosk in the narthex. Orders will begin Sunday, March 5th.

**Congratulations to Our
2023 Council & Officers**

President: DiAnne Beynon, Vice-President: Craig Shelton,
Secretary: Tonya Bagwell, Treasurer: Mike Schultz

The **2023 Congregational Resourcing Event** will be Sauk Valley Community College on Saturday, March 4th, 9:15 AM - 3:30 PM. The event is open to all congregation members. Take advantage of this learning event and discover new ways to enhance our congregation. Please call the office or see Pastor Dan if you are interested in attending. The church will pay your registration fee.

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. We also love to have you celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, or other special occasions with your Alpine family. Just sign up on the poster by the coffee. Thank you.

From the SCRIP Desk:

Don't forget your furry family who has been cooped up during our colder months. SCRIP has cards from many retailers where you can buy them a special treat or toy. (Jody Dabson)

KEEP CALM...SHOP SCRIP

Calling All C & E Singers! Lent is quickly approaching. Ash Wednesday is February 22nd with an early Easter. This year's cantata will be a Good Friday Tenebrae presentation. We will begin rehearsals the Tuesday following Ash Wednesday, February 28th at 7:15 PM. All are welcome to join us as we prepare this special musical presentation.



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.

In just about 2 weeks we will be hosting our Alpine Family Feud Auction Dinner. If you haven't already turned in your RSVP please turn that in this week. The last day to RSVP is Sunday February 26th. We are looking forward to an exciting event full of fun for everyone.

The Silent Auction portion of the dinner is really shaping up with over 50 local businesses making donations of a variety of items and gift cards for everyone to bid on. We also still have additional Raffle tickets available that you can get now or at the event. Remember the Raffle Winner will have a choice of a \$1000.00 tuition credit or \$500.00 cash. You can expect to enjoy participating in some games and other fun activities that night as well.

At the beginning of our 25th school year we made a big announcement and opened a second location on the west side of Rockford. Alpine Academy has engaged in a partnership with Resurrection Lutheran Church who are home to our second location Resurrection Campus. At our upcoming dinner we will be making a huge announcement that will affect our Main Campus and provide additional avenue for growth. We look forward to sharing this announcement during the dinner and hope you are there to celebrate that with us.

Our dinner is also our opportunity to celebrate the 25 Years of Education here at Alpine. This celebration is just as much if not more about our Church Congregation than it is about the school. 25 years ago Alpine Lutheran Church made a big decision of it's own by agreeing to house a grade school here in our building. Ten years later Alpine Lutheran Church maintained that commitment by voting to continue the school as a ministry when Rockford Lutheran left.

If you have not already, please RSVP to this years dinner and prepare to celebrate with us as we also us this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued support and commitment for Alpine Lutheran Church. Lets celebrate these 25 years together and look forward to the bright future of Alpine Academy of Rockford.

In Christ,
 Scott Dabson
 Director
 Alpine Academy



Alpine Academy
 of Rockford
 Faith • Family • Future